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CHILDHOOD EXPOSURE TO FAMILY VIOLENCE IN SPOUSALLY ABUSIVE AND SPOUSALLY NON-ABUSIVE MALE FEDERAL OFFENDERS

BY

ROSEMARY I. MOULDEN

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A DISSERTATION
SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND
RESEARCH IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
EDMONTON, ALBERTA
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DATE: April 24, 1995

DEDICATION

With gratitude and love to my husband, James Douglas Moulden, a resplendent man; to my parents, Waltraud and Erich Friedrich, for their love and support and unfailing prayers; and to my family, for the love and laughter we have shared.

ABSTRACT

Spousal abuse, one of the many forms of family violence, came into focus as a social problem as recently as 1971, and incidents of spousal abuse in Canada vary broadly. Studies of abusive males and data provided by spousally abusive males themselves remains relatively infrequent in the literature on spouse abuse. Furthermore, studies of family-of-origin violence within a male federal offender group are extremely rare.

Exposure to violence in the abuser's family-of-origin is not infrequently reported in the literature of spousal abuse, as is an intergenerational transmission of violence. Further, while exposure to violence includes both parent-child and parent-parent physical abuse, studies examining the incidence and effects of exposure to interparental abuse have only recently become a recognized area in the research on spousal abuse.

The purpose of this study of spousally abusive and spousally non-abusive male federal offenders was to examine data pertaining to childhood exposure to family violence. Specifically, the following aspects of family-of-origin violence were examined: percentage of spousally abusive males who have had prior relationships in which they were also physically abusive, proportion of males in each group who experienced parent-child physical abuse, proportion of males in each group who were exposed to parent-parent physical abuse, proportion of males in each group who witnessed (i.e., actually saw) interparental physical abuse, proportion of males in each group who experienced a double dose of violence (i.e., exposure to both parent-child physical abuse and parent-parent physical abuse), proportion of males who are (also) violent outside of the home, and the number of males whose siblings are physically abusive of others.

While childhood exposure to family violence was frequently found in both the spousally abusive group and the spousally non-abusive group of males, exposure to family-of-origin violence did not discriminate between the two groups. Thus, while causal conclusions could not be drawn, the results of this study indicate that childhood exposure to family violence is frequently found in a male federal offender population; however, it is neither exclusively nor predominantly found in a spousally abusive group of males, and an intergenerational transfer of violence perspective was not supported.

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CHAPTER I

Introduction

Family Violence: Spousal Abuse

Family violence is not a new phenomenon. Frankel-Howard, commenting on the historical background of family violence, observes that "violence in families ... has long been a characteristic of family life, and has been tolerated and sanctioned by society" (1989, p. 9). Recent attention to the problem of family violence is due, in large part, to the women's movement, the establishment of women's shelters, and an abundant number of published works that bring it to the attention of the public (Bland & Orn, 1986, p. 129).

Of the many forms of family violence, spousal abuse did not come into focus as a social problem until as late as 1971 (Rae-Grant, 1983, p. 505). And, "until the early 1980s, much of the research ... was on the battered woman" (Caesar, 1988, p. 49). In terms of estimates of the incidence of spousal abuse in Canada, figures vary (likely according to the manner in which the issue is defined) from 50% of all Canadian women to one in nine Alberta women (Cadsky & Crawford, 1988). Widom notes that "considerable uncertainty and debate remain about the extent of" spousal abuse (1989, p. 3); nonetheless, there is little contention that it is a significant problem which merits further research.

Studies of abusive males are an even more recent phenomenon in the family violence literature, and much of the data describing spousally abusive males relies heavily (or indeed is often based solely) on *victims'* reports of batterers' histories and behaviors. For example, Lehr notes that most of the data on spousal abuse has "been collected predominantly from wives," and

that "husbands' reports ... rarely appear" (1988, p. 21). Cadsky and Crawford cite Roy, who exclaims that entire "populations of wife assaulters have been described by their partners and victims" (1988, p. 120). Carter, Stacey and Shupe suggest that the focus on (women) victims and the "dearth of reliable data on male spouse abusers" is likely due to researchers' greater accessibility to the victims (1988, p. 259), and as recently as 1990, Claes and Rosenthal continue to identify the absence of data collected from male abusers as a largely neglected area in the research of spousal abuse.

Childhood Exposure to Family Violence In Spousally Abusive Males: The Intergenerational Transmission of Violence Perspective

Many theories and perspectives have been advanced to explain the causes of family violence generally and spousal abuse specifically. The perspective of an intergenerational transmission of violence, sometimes referred to as a cycle of violence or a generational transfer of violence, attempts to explain spousal abuse in terms of the abuser's exposure in childhood to family violence (i.e., parent-child abuse and/or parent-parent abuse). For example, Frankel-Howard (1989, p. 15) notes that within an intergenerational transmission of violence perspective, "it is widely held that violence is a learned behavior and a number of studies have indicated that children who experience or witness violence have the tendency to be [spousally] violent in their own adulthood." However, while childhood exposure to family violence is not infrequently reported in the literature on spousal abuse, Frankel-Howard adds that many researchers question the assumption of an intergenerational transmission of violence, and the relationship between early exposure to violence and later violent behavior (including spousal assault) has been widely debated. For example, Widom

(1989) found little evidence that exposure to violence (i.e., parent-child abuse) resulted in the commission of violent crimes in adulthood, and DiLalla and Gottesman (1991) support a biological predisposition toward criminality over other explanations. Alternately, Bolton and Bolton (1987) cite two studies in which researchers found that "inconsistent, harsh, and punishing parent-child relationships have been correlated with later juvenile and adult criminal violence" (p. 327), and Dutton and Hart cite a study in which it was found that abused children were 1.72 times more likely than non-abused children to have an adult criminal record (1992, p. 110).

Another important consideration in terms of the intergenerational transmission of violence controversy is the relative infancy of studies on childhood exposure to interparental abuse. For example, Geffner, Rosenbaum and Hughes note that, in contrast to child physical abuse (which came to the forefront in the 1960s), "the study of children who witness parental violence has only recently become a recognized research area, and its development is still in the very basic stages" (1988, p. 459).

Methodological problems in spousal abuse research have, in part, contributed to the assumption of an intergenerational transmission of violence. For example, Star (1978) studied 58 women, 46 of whom were physically abused by their partners. Data provided by the women about their partners suggests that the men who were physically abusive "more often came from families in which they experienced or witnessed physical abuse" (p. 37). These findings, however, should be interpreted with care: Yegidis, in her 1988 study in which female subjects were also asked to evaluate the history of their male partners, acknowledges the probability "that the data were distorted because of the respondents' misperceptions or lack of knowledge of their partners' early life experiences" (p. 65). This underscores

the problematic nature of conducting studies of male spousal abusers, all the while relying on data *about* them (or about their childhood experiences) that has not been provided *by* them. Caesar (1988) also notes that "most studies that report findings on the relationship between wife battering and early exposure to violence ... rely heavily on wives as informants" -- a methodology Caesar finds questionable (p. 50).

Of the research on a generational transfer of violence and spousal abuse in which males reported on their own history and behavior, Coleman, Weinman and Hsi (1980) studied 30 couples reporting conjugal violence and 30 couples reporting no history of violence, and found that maritally violent couples reported having "observed and/or experienced parental violence more often than the" maritally non-violent group (p. 199). Unfortunately, no distinction was made in the Coleman *et al.* study between exposure to parent-child abuse, parent-parent abuse, or both. Howell and Pugliesi, in a study in which males' responses regarding their own behavior with their spouses were examined, found that males "observing a violent parental model are about 2.52 times as likely as those not observing a violent parental model to report engaging in violence" (1988, pp. 23-24). And, Russell, Lipov, Phillips and White (1989) compared 42 couples requesting counselling from Family Services in Vancouver, of which 32 couples had experienced at least one episode of spousal physical abuse in the recent past. Russell *et al.* found that 33% of the non-violent males and 55% of violent males had observed parental violence, leading them to conclude that, while the rate of parental violence was not substantially higher for the group of violent males, "a strong trend in this direction was observed" (p. 85). Of note, however, is that one-half of the males in the non-violent group in the Russell *et al.* study had been spousally violent in previous relationships (p. 85).

Finally, there is also a paucity of research examining childhood exposure to family violence among male federal offenders. Carter, Stacey and Shupe (1992) state that the rate of childhood victimization by abuse in federal inmates is of interest in future research, and Frank Porporino, Research Director for Correctional Services Canada, notes that he is not aware "of any studies that show the ... physical abuse rate of male federal offenders as a group" (Heinrich, 1993, p. G1).

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study was to examine data pertaining to childhood exposure to family violence (i.e., parent-parent physical abuse and/or parent-child physical abuse) in male federal offenders. Specifically, data provided by males referred to Forensic Assessment and Community Services (FACS), Interpersonal and Family Skills (IFS), a division of Alberta Hospital Edmonton, between June 1, 1991 and September 30, 1992 were examined. The entire sample of male federal offenders was divided into two groups: one group comprising men who had (ever) been spousally physically abusive, and a second group of males who had never been spousally physically abusive. Specifically, the following areas were studied:

- percentage of spousally abusive males who had prior relationships in which they were also physically abusive
- proportion of males in each group who experienced parent-child physical abuse
- proportion of males in each group who were exposed to parent-parent physical abuse
- proportion of males in each group who actually saw (i.e., witnessed) interparental physical abuse

- proportion of males in each group who experienced a double dose of violence (i.e., who were exposed to both parent-child physical abuse and parent-parent physical abuse)
- proportion of males in each group who are (also) violent outside of the home
- number of males in each group whose siblings are physically abusive of others

The present study is descriptive in design, and was therefore "primarily concerned with finding out 'what is'" (Borg & Gall, 1989, p. 331). Descriptive data were analyzed, and chi square tests (p=.05) were employed to determine whether differences between the two groups of male federal offenders were statistically significant.

Overview of the Dissertation

Following Chapter 1, an introductory chapter, a review of the literature on childhood exposure to family-of-origin violence as it pertains to the intergenerational transmission of violence perspective and spousal abuse comprises Chapter II. Research design and methodology are presented in Chapter III, and research instruments and procedures for data collection are also described therein. The generalizability and limitations of the present study are also discussed in Chapter III. Chapter IV contains the research findings and results, followed by a discussion and summary of the findings and results in Chapter V.

Definition of Terms

Many terms used in the literature on spousal abuse are not clearly defined in the particular study in which they appear, and are therefore subject

to inconsistent interpretations. For example, terms such as "spouse," "spousal," "wife," "partner," "assault," "abuse," "violence," "abuser," "batterer," etc., are often used interchangeably. Similarly, a variety of terms are applied to the act of spousal abuse, among them: "marital violence, interspousal violence, domestic violence, spousal assault, wife battering, wife abuse, women battering, partner abuse [and] wife beating" (Frankel-Howard, 1989, p. 57). Therefore, when discussing existing research, terms will be reported herein in the manner in which they appear in the particular study under discussion.

However, for the purpose of the present study, terms are defined as follows:

Wife/Spouse/Spousal/Partner - while these terms may traditionally have assumed a legal (marital) relationship to be present, the terms "wife," "spouse," "spousal," and "partner" will be used in the present study "to refer to an intimate, marriage-*like* relationship" (Rosenbaum, 1988, p. 93 [italics added]), thereby enabling the researcher to examine the data of males who have been legally married, and/or who have (had) common-law relationships (i.e., live-in relationships of six months or longer duration), and/or who have (had) live-in relationships of less than six months duration.

Physical Violence/Physical Abuse/Abuse/Assault - Frankel-Howard cites Straus, who notes that "the point at which violence is regarded as abuse is a reflection of the social mores of a given time" (1989, p. 12) -- an observation which underscores the problematic nature of delineating exactly what abusive behavior generally entails. Frankel-Howard offers the following definition of spousal physical abuse, formulated by Wiebe: "wife assault refers to violent acts by men against their wives/partners ... physical assaults range from threats, to beating, to homicide" (1989, p. 57). Although wife

abuse includes a broad range of behaviors (such as psychological abuse, sexual abuse, and physical abuse), for the purpose of the present study, the terms "violence," "abuse," and "assault" will be inclusive of any and all forms of *physical abuse* that may be employed by men against their partners.

Abuser - For the purpose of the present study, the term "abuser," "wife abuser," or "spousal abuser" will refer to the male partner in the dyad unless otherwise specified.

Family/Family-of-origin - the term "family" is inclusive of a group of persons forming a household. The primary parent(s), parental-figure(s), or caregiver(s) are inclusive of any person(s) who represented the male's parental figure(s), such as his biological mother/father, his adoptive mother/father, his foster mother/father, biological relatives, etc.

CHAPTER II

Literature Review

Introduction

The research and literature on family violence generally and spousal abuse specifically is multitudinous, due in no small part to the fact that "family members can harm each other in many ways" (Bolton & Bolton, 1987, p. 17). Further, the expanse of the research on family violence is also due in part to the fact that several *types* of abuse occurs within families; most notably, elder abuse, child abuse, and spousal abuse (male as perpetrator). To a lesser extent, other types of family violence have also been addressed in the literature, such as "sibling abuse [and] abuse of parents by their children" (Frankel-Howard, 1989, p. 7). Husband abuse (i.e., spousal abuse of the male by the female) is also documented (Bland & Orn, 1986; Bograd, 1990; Hoffman & Toner, 1988; McNeely & Mann, 1990; Rae-Grant, 1983). Further, the *forms* of abuse addressed most frequently in the family violence literature include physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological (or emotional) abuse, and neglect, and this is regardless of whether the focus is on spousal abuse, child abuse, or elder abuse.

The various contributors to family violence form yet another important area of the research. Among the proposed contributors to family violence generally, for example (and most certainly to name only a few), poverty, socio-economic status and the absence of economic resources, social isolation, racial factors, psychological factors (psychopathology and personality/character disorders), environmental factors, and substance abuse are frequently investigated. Further, family violence research may focus on the perpetrator and/or the victim, and, for example, factors such as

unresolved conflict; inappropriate and distorted dependencies; immaturity; low self-esteem; lack of role preparation; dominance and control issues; social and interpersonal skills; denial and defensiveness; maternal collusion; risk markers, typologies, characteristics and profiles; and victim precipitation are among the many areas of study. And, the literature on family violence generally and spousal abuse specifically also includes research in terms of the prediction of violence as well as investigation of treatment issues.

Theories of family violence also form a portion of family violence research. For instance, in terms of theories of family violence generally, individual pathology explanations, sociological explanations, and structural/political approaches are frequently studied. Within spousal abuse specifically, studies of biological explanations, individual pathology, family dynamics (such as social interaction theories and ordinary violence), resource theories (e.g., economic dependence), social and socio-economic stress, social environment theories; socio-cultural theories and sociological theories, such as social learning theory (including intergenerational transmission, sex-role socialization and learned helplessness) also form an important part of the research.

For the purpose of the present study, a review of the literature on intergenerational transmission of violence and spousal abuse specifically will form the parameters of the literature review.

In terms of the literature on spousal abuse and intergenerational transmission of violence, a considerable number of studies have found that many male abusers were exposed to childhood violence in their families-of-origin; however, this is not always the case. Furthermore, there is some debate as to whether the *type* of abuse (that is, exposure to interparental abuse and/or parent-child abuse) is related to later spousal abuse. With

reference to an intergenerational transmission of violence and spousal abuse, for example, Pagelow (1984) notes that "some writers take a theoretical leap from childhood violence experience to adult violence" (p. 230), and Widom (1989) writes that, while the idea that violence begets violence may make intuitive sense, "the alleged relationship has not really 'passed scientific muster'" (p. 3).

Overview

Following is a review of the literature in which an intergenerational transmission of violence perspective as it pertains to spousal abuse is discussed. Studies supporting an intergenerational transmission of violence and spousal abuse are presented within that context. Thereafter, a discussion of the debate regarding intergenerational transmission and spousal abuse is presented, and research on federal offenders in terms of childhood exposure to family violence is described. Finally, methodological problems in studies of intergenerational transmission and spousal abuse are summarized.

The Intergenerational Transmission of Violence and Spousal Abuse

Numerous theories have been advanced to explain family violence generally and what is questionably a preponderance of exposure to family-of-origin violence among spouse abusers specifically. Among them, the perspective of an intergenerational transmission of violence, also referred to as a generational transfer of violence or a cycle of violence, "is undoubtedly the most frequently mentioned theoretical framework in the literature on family violence" (Pagelow, 1984, p. 223), this despite the fact that an intergenerational transmission of violence as it pertains to spousal abuse

continues to be the subject of much debate. The intergenerational transmission of violence is sometimes referred to as a perspective which "explains battering historically as behavior that was learned growing up in a home where spouse abuse and child abuse regularly occurred" (Claes & Rosenthal, 1990, p. 215). That is, the perspective that "witnessing and [or] experiencing violence in childhood is an important precipitant of later violence" explains what is often meant by a cycle, or intergenerational transmission, of violence (Hotaling & Sugarman, 1986, p. 119).

Yegidis (1992, p. 524) suggests that, while several theories have been used to explain family violence in general, social learning theory has emerged as the most useful model in this respect, and Howell and Pugliesi (1988) agree that "the role of modelling or imitation in learning of violent behavior has been examined and widely supported" (p. 17). Furthermore, Russell describes modelling as "an important vehicle for learning abusive behavior," and notes that it "is held to account for the high incidence of batterers having witnessed family violence as children" (1988, p. 195).

From a social learning perspective specifically, Bandura writes that "physical aggression between family members provides a likely model for the learning of aggressive behavior as well as for the appropriateness of such behavior within the family" (cited in Widom, 1989, p. 4). Straus, Gelles and Steinmetz (1980) agree that through modeling, children learn that violence is an appropriate way to resolve conflict in intimate relationships. In other words, a social learning perspective "basically argues that one learns procriminal or deviant attitudes and behaviors in interaction with others, especially those in one's primary groups" (Howell & Pugliesi, 1988, p. 17).

Not all researchers, however, are keen proponents of the efficacy of a generational transfer of violence -- as interpreted by social learning theory --

to explain spousal abuse, and O'Leary notes that "it appears that a social learning approach to spousal aggression is not an especially parsimonious approach" (1988, p. 52). Herrenkohl, Herrenkohl and Toedter observe that, while a number of researchers have found an intergenerational pattern of abuse over several generations, "the dynamics that have been hypothesized to explain such intergenerational transmission of violence are diverse," social learning representing only one of several perspectives (1983, p. 305). Frankel-Howard notes that "recently published works take a less categorical cause-effect stance, and many question the assumption of intergenerational transmission" (1989, p. 15). And, Howell and Pugliesi (1988) conclude that "several researchers in the area of spousal assault have concluded that no single theory or even any single disciple [sic] have yet been adequate in thoroughly explaining spouse abuse" (p. 16).

Beyond a social learning explanation of spousal abuse, there exists a broader perspective of a cycle of violence affect in terms of spousal abuse. For example, Jaffe, Wilson and Wolfe (1986), in their discussion of the effects of interparental abuse on children, provide the following observation, which is worth repeating in its entirety:

> The lessons that children are likely to learn from violent parents (to the extent that they identify with their parents and model this behavior) can be formulated: (1) violence is an appropriate form of conflict resolution; (2) violence has a place within the family interaction; (3) if violence is reported to others in the community, including mental health and criminal justice professionals, there are few, if any, consequences; (4) sexism, as defined by an inequality of power, decision-making, and roles within a family, is to be encouraged; (5) violence is an appropriate means of stress management; and (6)

> victims of violence are to tolerate this behavior at best, and to examine their responsibility in bringing on the violence, at worst. (p. 360)

While Jaffe *et al.* do not present it as such, the foregoing synopsis includes the concept of power and control, and thus provides a broader explanation of what a cycle of violence may actually entail in terms of spousal abuse. Kincaid expounds on this, and suggests that a "'cycle of sexism' ... has a more significant impact than the cycle of violence," and further hypothesizes that a cycle of sexism perspective may explain spousal violence when there has been no (parent-parent or parent-child) physical abuse in the male's background.

> It is proposed here that there is a cycle of sexism which is perpetuated by generation after generation systematically teaching not just a double standard of behaviour to men and women but also a prescription of male dominance as if it had a biological basis. (cited in Frankel-Howard, 1989, p. 77)

Of note is that, in a 52 case-comparison study, Hotaling and Sugarman (1986, p. 114) found traditional sex role expectation to be a consistent *non-risk* marker among male characteristics of batterers and non-batterers, and propose that "male dominant expectations may be so pervasive that it is not possible to differentiate violent from nonviolent males on this dimension."

As noted previously, an abundance of theories and explanations have been advanced to explain the causes of and contributors to family violence generally and spousal abuse specifically. For example, Frankel-Howard (1989) describes individual pathology approaches (such as psychopathology, alcohol and substance abuse, victim precipitation, and the medical model), sociological approaches other than the intergenerational transmission of violence perspective (such as socio-economic stress, stress in family

dynamics, power and status within the family unit, resource/exchange theory and ordinary violence), and structural/political approaches (such as a feminist perspective, a Marxist perspective and race as a salient factor). And, as previously noted, Yegidis states that as many as 16 theories have been used to explain family violence (1992, p. 524). While it is beyond the focus of the present study to present or debate in detail the many proposed causes and factors of spousal abuse or other issues of theoretical importance in terms of family violence, for a discussion of the theories of family violence generally and spousal abuse specifically, the reader is directed to see, for example: Bersani and Chen, 1988; Frankel-Howard, 1989; Gelles, 1983; McLeer, 1988; O'Leary, 1988; or Pagelow, 1984.

Studies Supporting an Intergenerational Transmission of Violence and Spousal Abuse

It has been noted that frequently postulated in the literature on spousal abuse is that exposure to violence in one's family-of-origin is associated with later spousal abuse. For example, Frankel-Howard reports that childhood exposure to family violence "continues to be cited as an important factor in wife assault" (1989, p. 60), and notes that "a number of studies have indicated that children who experience or witness violence have the tendency to be violent in their own adulthood" (p. 15). Yegidis (1992, p. 520) notes that not only has recent research in the area of family violence "consistently found intergenerational transmission," but that historically, the data on wife abuse also supports a cycle of violence (p. 522). And, Hotaling and Sugarman (1986), using 52 case-comparison studies as a source of data to identify risk-markers in husband and wife violence, found that for males, witnessing parental violence as a child or adolescent showed a very strong

association with the later use of spousal violence. Experiencing violence from parents or caregivers was also found to discriminate batterers from non-batterers (p. 111). Of note is that Hotaling and Sugarman (1986) identify risk markers as attributes or characteristics that are "associated with an increased probability to ... the use of husband to wife violence," and are not necessarily causal factors of violence (p. 102).

Caesar (1988) examined violence in the families-of-origin of 44 men (26 spouse abusers and 18 maritally non-abusive males [including males who had been abusive on less than two occasions]), and found that spousally abusive males were more likely than maritally non-violent males "to have been abused as children, to have witnessed their father beating their mother, and to have been disciplined as children with corporal punishment" (1988, p. 49). Furthermore, Caesar found that batterers were more likely than comparison subjects to have both been abused as children and to have witnessed parent-to-parent violence. For example, of the 26 batterers and 18 maritally non-violent men, 12% and 11% respectively had been abused only; 23% and 17% respectively had witnessed abuse only; and 27% and 0% of the maritally violent and maritally non-violent men respectively had both been abused and had witnessed parent-parent abuse. Of note are several problematic factors that may have affected these results. First, as noted above, three of the 18 "non-abusive" males in Caesar's study had, in fact, reported spousally abusive behavior on one occasion. Second, child abuse was coded only when respondents considered themselves, or their siblings, to have been physically abused. Thus, data on siblings were included in the proportion of respondents who were abused as children. Third, respondents were coded as having experienced parent-to-parent violence only if they had witnessed it or two or more occasions. Thus, respondents who were

exposed to but did not actually see interparental violence, or who were exposed to interpersonal violence and witnessed it on less than two occasions, were excluded from this group.

While childhood exposure to family violence includes parent-parent violence and/or parent-child violence, some studies have shown that the impact of witnessing (parent-parent) violence may have a different influence than the impact of experiencing (parent-child) violence, and Howell and Pugliesi note that "a considerable body of spouse abuse research concludes that individuals who abuse their spouses tend to come from families in which they *witnessed* parental abuse" (1988, p. 17 [italics added]). For example, Carter, Stacey and Shupe (1988) conducted a study to determine whether the degree of violence male spousal batterers experienced as children was related to the severity of their current violent behavior, and to test "the relationship between early socialization processes and adult violence" (p. 260). Carter *et al.* collected data about male batterers from 542 women in shelters. From this data the researchers employed four indexes, which were then scored according to: (1) whether the batterer had witnessed violence as a child, had experienced physical abuse as a child, had been neglected as a child, or had siblings who were physically abused as children; (2) the severity of the form of violence the batterer used against his partner; (3) the types of injuries his partner sustained as a result of his actions; and (4) the joint scores from (2) and (3) to form an index of violence severity (1988, pp. 264-265). Of note is the use of second-hand, retrospective data in terms of the information used to formulate data for these indexes. That is, not only was this data provided about the male by his partner, but, what is more, information about the male's *childhood* was provided by his partner. Bearing this in mind, Carter *et al.* found that batterers who experienced a high degree

of violent socialization in their family of orientation had the highest rate of high severity violence. "Men's past violent socialization experiences are related to the severity of their adult violence toward women, whether the latter is measured by how the women were injured, [or] by the effects of the violence" (p. 268). Carter *et al.* conclude that "merely *witnessing* interparental violence seems the most important of the early 'sources' of adult violence" (p. 270, [italics added]).

Further, Kalmuss (1984) conducted a study of the data from a nationally representative sample of 2,143 (American) adults (1183 women and 960 men) to investigate the relationship between two types of childhood family aggression (parent-parent hitting and parent-child hitting) and respondents' current severity of marital aggression. All respondents were in a cohabiting relationship with a member of the opposite sex. Parent-child hitting was based on how often respondents' parents hit them as teenagers. Unfortunately, no data were available in terms of parent-child hitting of respondents' in their pre-teen and earlier childhood years. Respondents' current rate of marital aggression was measured using Straus' Conflict Tactics Scale, and was limited to items involving acts of physical aggression that carried a high risk of serious injury. The rate of husband to wife severe aggression for the sample was 3.8% (p. 13). Kalmuss found that both types of childhood aggression are necessary to adequately model severe marital aggression: "eliminating *either* childhood aggression effect significantly decreases our ability to adequately model severe marital aggression" (p. 14). For example, Kalmuss found that the probability of marital aggression varies according to different combinations of exposure to childhood aggression. When both parent-parent and parent-child hitting occurred, the probability of severe husband to wife aggression is 12%, compared to 1% when neither

form of aggression has occurred in one's childhood family (p. 15). However, while parent-parent hitting and parent-child hitting were both positively related to severe marital aggression, Kalmuss found parent-parent hitting to be a stronger predictor of marital aggression. In other words, the probably of current marital aggression is dramatically increased when respondents' were exposed to *both* types of family aggression, but "severe marital aggression is more likely when respondents observed hitting between their parents than when they were hit as teens by their parents" (p. 15). Kalmuss suggests the possibility that the relative rarity of parent-parent hitting (15.8% of respondents reported observing parental hitting while 62.4% reported being hit as a teenager by their parents) "may increase its salience as a model for subsequent family behavior," and that "parent-child hitting ... may be so common that it is not perceived as physical aggression, but rather as socially acceptable discipline" (p. 16). In conclusion, Kalmuss notes that cross-generational patterns of marital aggression are consistent, but weak (p. 18).

Finally, Rosenbaum and O'Leary (1981) studied data collected from abused women and (when available) their partners, as well as two comparison groups: a group of satisfactorily married couples and a group of discordant but non-violent couples. These researchers reported that "when wives' reports of husbands' family backgrounds were analyzed ... spouse and child abuse were greater in the abused" group than in the comparison groups (p. 68). However, "when the husbands' self-report data were analyzed ... there were significant differences among the three groups regarding spouse abuse [i.e., parent-to-parent violence] in the husband's family of origin ... but there was only a trend regarding child abuse in the husband's family of origin" (p. 68). While Rosenbaum and O'Leary do not speculate as to the reason for this, it could be that, similar to findings in Kalmuss' (1984) study,

exposure to childhood physical "discipline" is so common that it is perceived as a socially acceptable means of discipline rather than an abusive or aggressive act.

The Debate Surrounding an Intergenerational Transmission of Violence and Spousal Abuse

As previously noted, researchers are divided in their agreement of an intergenerational transmission of violence: some studies have found no evidence to support a cycle of violence, and Pagelow (1984) states that "as a blanket assumption, it has received popular acceptance, but little scientifically sound support" (p. 251). Stark and Flitcraft also note that "the data on intergenerational transmission does not support the cycle of violence theory as an explanation of women battering" (1988, p. 312). Kalmuss remarks that "there is controversy as to whether intergenerational effects exist," and adds that "recent studies of cross-generational patterns of marital aggression ... have produced equivocal results" (1984, p. 11). Bolton and Bolton (1987) also report that "current indications are that the case for a cycle of violence or the intergenerational transmission of violence in the family has been overstated," with recent studies "finding a lower prevalence of early violence in currently violent families" than reported in older studies (p. 81). And Herrenkohl, Herrenkohl and Toedter note that, "while the cases of intergenerational transmission of violence are dramatic, by no means is this an unvarying pattern. Surveys of studies find more deviations from the pattern than they do conformity" (1983, p. 306). Herrenkohl *et al.* focus on physical punishment and other childhood factors as they relate to later marital aggression, and conclude that, while experiences of abuse and neglect significantly increase the risk of becoming an abuser, several other

factors in both past and present life likely have *equal* influence on behavior. Further, Bolton and Bolton (1987) complain that although empirical support for a generational transfer of violence is lacking, this has nonetheless failed to dissuade numerous researchers from reaching the conclusion - *ipso facto* - that violence begets violence. Carter, Stacey and Shupe concur, and state that "despite the assumption ... that the cycle of violence is well established, there is only modest ... support for this assumption" (1988, p. 261).

With reference to the existing research on the effects of exposure to interparental abuse specifically, Geffner, Rosenbaum and Hughes note that "the study of children who witness parental violence has only recently become a recognized research area, and its development is still in the very basic stages" (1988, p. 459). Moreover, Geffner *et al.* add that "very few conclusions can be drawn regarding child witnesses of parental violence. The most fruitful avenues to pursue are those that will help investigators understand the incidence and prevalence of exposure to parental violence" (p. 475). Further, Widom reviewed studies assessing the consequences of observing or witnessing parent-parent violence and found that, "among those witnessing severe family aggression, about 16%-17% reported marital aggression" as adults (1989, p. 24). Widom concludes by noting only a weak (albeit consistent) association in large-scale national surveys "between observing violence and later marital aggression."

In terms of parent-child abuse, Pagelow cites a study by Bolton, Reich and Gutierres of 774 abused children, in which research data supports the hypothesis "that victims of child abuse are *less* likely than their nonabused siblings to commit aggressive acts" (1984, p. 230 [italics added]). That is, the Bolton *et al.* data argue against an intergenerational transmission of violence. With reference to the intergenerational transmission of violence

and parenting practices, Pagelow notes that, at "this point, there is no scientifically sound empirical evidence that there is a causal relationship between being an abused child and becoming an adult child abuser. There is evidence of a weak association, but when up to 90 percent of child abusers cannot be shown to have been abused in their own childhoods, the association can be considered hardly greater than chance" (p. 254). Straus, Gelles and Steinmetz (1980) also found "only a slight tendency for ... mothers and fathers who had experienced the most [parent-child] violence to be more likely to hit their own children" (p. 106). Straus *et al.* speculate that this is because *"almost everyone in our society hits his or her children"* (p. 106).

Finally, Frankel-Howard also acknowledges that some authors question the assumption of a generational transmission of spousal abuse, and cites a number of researchers who suggest that the theory needs to be studied in greater depth (1989, p. 16). However, Pagelow proposes that this may be a difficult task since, "there is no way that a cycle of violence can be proved or disproved" (1984, p. 224).

DiLalla and Gottesman (1991) maintain that an important aspect of the proposed cycle of violence in the transmission of violent behavior within the family is the affect of biological and genetic contributors to abuse. DiLalla and Gottesman, in reviewing studies concerning biological or genetic contributors to violence, note the "sufficiently large body of evidence related to the biological bases of criminal behavior" (p. 125).

For example, in genetic research, family studies, twin studies (both MZ and DZ twins), and adoption studies each offer a segment of the broader picture of the interplay between genetic and environmental influences. That is, family members share the same genes and the same environment.

Therefore, if no relationship is demonstrated between family members for a certain behavior, it could be deduced that "there is no genetic or shared environmental influence for that behavior" (DiLalla & Gottesman, 1991, p. 125). Twin studies, on the other hand, are particularly useful, in that monozygotic twins share 100% of their genes while dizygotic twins share, on average, 50% of their genes. "Thus, a comparison of concordance rates between the two types of twins provides a handle on the extent of environmental influence" of a particular behavior (p. 125). Finally, while adoptees may not share a similar environment with their biological parents, they do share common genes.

As already noted, while the male's experience of having been abused as a child and/or having been exposed to parent-parent abuse is frequently reported in the literature on spousal abuse, DiLalla and Gottesman argue that "experiencing violence as victim or observer in the home is not the only familial cause of later violent criminal behavior" (1991, p. 125). It seems that individual differences, such as temperament, also have a heritable component (p. 128). Temperament may thus be an important factor in determining whether abused children and/or children who have been exposed to interparental abuse are likely to display abusive behavior towards their spouse as adults.

Both adoption studies and twin studies have supported the hypothesis of an intervening genetic factor. For example, DiLalla and Gottesman cite Cadoret's review of several adoption studies, in which it was concluded that "genetic factors, including having an alcoholic biological relative, explain more of the variance in antisocial behavior than do environmental factors, such as an unstable home environment" (1991, p. 126). This is not to say that environmental factors have an insignificant impact on abusive or

antisocial behavior. DiLalla and Gottesman cite an adoption study of male criminal adoptees by Cloninger, Sigvardsson, Bohman and von Knorring, in which it was found that "genetic factors played a larger role than did environmental factors"; however, "when *both* were combined they greatly increased the risk of later criminality" (p. 126 [italics added]).

In conclusion, DiLalla and Gottesman note that "cultural inheritance is just one of the paths that make children similar to their parents ... More often, the relative roles of cultural and genetic inheritance are [still] unknown" (1991, p. 128).

Male Federal Offenders and Childhood Exposure to Family Violence

Dutton and Hart (1992) conducted a study of risk markers for family violence in a federally incarcerated population. First, researchers reviewed data from the Correctional Services of Canada files of 597 male offenders. Then, "70 inmates and 29 of their female partners were interviewed and administered self-report questionnaires to validate and corroborate the institutional file records of past and present family violence" (p. 103). On the basis of these file reviews, inmates were divided into three groups: non-violent offenders (12.4%), stranger-violence offenders (58%), and family violence offenders (29.6%). It is important to note that 85 of the 175 men in the family violence offender group were classified as such because of sexual assaults (as well as physical assaults) against family members. Considering three forms of childhood abuse -- physical abuse, sexual abuse and other abuse (i.e., witnessing abuse against other family members or severe neglect or abandonment) -- Dutton and Hart found that "41% of the files contained reports by offenders indicating that they were seriously abused as a child or adolescent" (p. 105).

Specifically, of the three inmate groups, the family violence offenders had the highest percentage of childhood abuse at 54.6 percent. (The stranger violence and non-violent offenders had childhood abuse rates of 38.7% and 20.3% respectively.) Of family violence offenders, 41.4% experienced childhood physical violence and 20.3% witnessed interparental abuse. Of these results, (and bearing in mind that childhood sexual abuse was included among the forms of childhood abuse) Dutton and Hart note "that childhood abuse appears to have the most weight in the development of family violence problems in adulthood, followed to a lesser extent by general violence and then property crimes" (1992, p. 110).

In terms of the cycle of violence perspective and child abuse, neglect, and violent criminal behavior, Widom conducted an expansive review of the literature and discovered that the overall findings are contradictory. Of this retrospective study, Widom notes that "in most of the studies reviewed, the majority of abused children became neither delinquent nor violent offenders ... [and] there is little evidence that these childhood experiences have lasting consequences for the commission of violent crimes into adulthood" (1989, p. 23). Widom concludes that existing research findings can be interpreted in the following manner: "Being abused as a child may increase one's risk for becoming an abusive parent, a delinquent, or an adult violent criminal. However, on the basis of the findings from the existing literature, it cannot be said that the pathway is straight or certain" (p. 24).

DiLalla and Gottesman (1991) also address the issue of exposure to violence and criminality, and note that while abused children are often thought to be at risk for becoming violent or delinquent or criminal in later life, researchers need to control for the prevalence of criminality in families, since it "may be that criminal parents are more likely to abuse or neglect their

children, and children with a biological predisposition toward criminality are the ones that exhibit such behaviors themselves" (p. 128). In terms of antisocial behavior in general, DiLalla and Gottesman summarize two twin studies, in which not only a genetic component for adolescent antisocial behavior - with a heritability of approximately 70% - but also "the importance of both genetic and shared environmental influences on antisocial behavior" is demonstrated (p. 126).

Methodological Problems in Spousal Abuse Research

While the literature on spousal abuse is multitudinous, it has been noted that there is a relative paucity of first-hand information on male abusers, and overall, less attention has been paid to male abusers than to the victims of the abuse. The reasons for this vary, but it has been suggested that the dearth of information from male abusers is likely due - at least in part - to researchers' greater accessibility to the victims of abuse (Carter, Stacey & Shupe, 1988). Many researchers note that the information on male abusers has been provided predominantly by their wives (Cadsky & Crawford, 1988; Caesar, 1988; Carter, Stacey & Shupe, 1988; Claes & Rosenthal, 1990; Coleman, 1980; Geffner, Rosenbaum & Hughes, 1988; Lehr, 1988; Rosenbaum, 1988; Telch & Lindquist 1984), and Telch and Lindquist acknowledge that this raises some obvious reliability and validity issues (p. 242).

In terms of spousal abusers and childhood exposure to violence, Caesar, in her summation of the methodological problems in studies of marital violence, cites heavy reliance on wives as informants as a problem in studies in which a relationship between wife abuse and early exposure to violence is found (1988, p. 50). For example, Yegidis (1988) cautions

readers to keep in mind when evaluating her findings regarding history of childhood abuse, that "subjects were asked to evaluate the histories of their male partners," and further acknowledges that "it is probable that the data were distorted because of the respondents' misperceptions or lack of knowledge of their partners' early life experiences" (pp. 64-65).

A second concern in studies of exposure to violence is that "many researchers have not distinguished between the effects of experiencing and of observing physical aggression in one's childhood family" (Kalmuss, 1984, p. 12). Caesar (1988) and Pagelow (1984) also find the tendency to combine these two distinct phenomena in studies of exposure to violence problematic. Forsstrom-Cohen and Rosenbaum (1985) underscore this concern, and note that there "has been a generalized failure in the research literature to control for the presence of child abuse in the backgrounds of children who witness marital violence" (p. 468).

Third, Dobash and Dobash state that "little effort has been made to specify what a violent background is" (cited in Pagelow, 1984, p. 249), and definitions as to what constitutes violence or abuse in a study are seldom offered (Caesar, 1988; Geffner, Rosenbaum & Hughes, 1988; Rosenbaum, 1988).

The widespread lack of appropriate comparison groups is a fourth methodological concern (Geffner, Rosenbaum & Hughes, 1988; Widom, 1989; Yegidis, 1992). Geffner *et al.* note that, within the existing research on marital violence "there persists a generalized failure to employ appropriate ... comparison groups" of non-abusive husbands (p. 464). And Herrenkohl, Herrenkohl and Toedter observe that, in terms of studies of childhood exposure to violence and later abuse, "one of the problems in the case studies usually cited in support of this phenomenon is the absence of control

groups, making conclusions about the importance of a history of abuse difficult" (1983, p. 306).

In addition to this, Dobash and Dobash note that "little attention has been paid to the siblings of the individuals studied. For example, "if we discover that a man who beats his wife comes from a home in which his father beat his mother but that his three brothers do not beat their wives, then we have one case that appears to confirm the cycle of violence thesis and three that refute it" (cited in Pagelow, 1984, p. 249).

In terms of an attempt to confirm the veracity of information provided by males with reference to spousally abusive behavior, Geffner, Rosenbaum and Hughes note that "because social desirability would suggest that subjects would be more predisposed to deny violence that had occurred than they would to admit violence that had not occurred, it seems prudent to accept the veracity of a report of violence by any family member (either as perpetrator or victim) for purposes of classification" (1988, p. 467). In the present study, therefore, males' self-reports of spousally abusive or spousally non-abusive behavior were accepted. While attempting to confirm males' abusive or non-abusive behavior with their partners' reports may have provided some semblance of reliability in terms of the information males provided regarding spousal abuse, it would also have presented several serious problems. For example, many participants were unpartnered at the time of their referral for assessment. Of the female partners, some did not wish to participate in an assessment, and therefore partner (i.e., female) data were not abundant. Also, of males who denied past or present spousal abuse, many could have (and may have) coerced their partners to support such claims. Finally, the male's partner at time of assessment likely represented only one of often several females with whom he had been in a

marriage-like relationship, and males not uncommonly reported having had numerous intimate relationships. Thus, even if data provided by the male's present partner had verified his claim of being (presently) non-abusive, this still left the problem of how spousal abuse in all previous marriage-like relationships would be ruled out.

Finally, in terms of reliably identifying abusive and non-abusive males in the present study, the likelihood that males responded accurately to questions in the assessment is improved by the fact that the focus of the assessment was quite broad (i.e., it was not obviously specific to determining the presence or absence of spousal abuse), and the information to determine spousal abuse and exposure to violence was drawn from participants' responses to questions in several instruments.

Summary

It has been noted that research on family violence, and hence the literature in the area of family violence, is vast. Of the three major types of family violence -- child abuse, elder abuse, and spousal abuse -- research in terms of physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological (or emotional) abuse, and neglect is most frequently found. For the purpose of the present study, the parameters of the literature review included a focus on the intergenerational transmission of violence (in terms of childhood exposure to family violence) and spousal abuse.

The intergenerational transmission of violence, also referred to as the generational transfer of violence or cycle of violence, has been described as a perspective in which spousal abuse is viewed as behavior that the abuser learned by growing up in a home where he was exposed to parent-parent abuse and/or parent-child abuse. While this perspective is only one of the

many theories advanced to explain spousal abuse, it is likely the most frequently cited perspective in the literature on family violence. However, researchers are not unanimous in their support of a cycle of violence to explain spousal abuse. Several studies supporting a cycle of violence in terms of exposure to violence and spousal abuse have been presented. For example, in Caesar's study (1988), while 27% of the batterers had both witnessed and experienced abuse, none of the maritally non-violent men reported a double-dose of exposure to violence.

Exposure to interparental violence in the families-of-origin of males has been found by some researchers to have a more significant impact in terms of becoming spousally abusive than does parent-child abuse (e.g., Carter, 1988; Kalmuss, 1984; Rosenbaum & O'Leary, 1981). Kalmuss suggests that this may be due to the fact that parent-child hitting is more common than parent-parent hitting, thereby increasing its salience for spousally abusive behavior as an adult.

Within a federally incarcerated population, Dutton and Hart (1992) found that family violence offenders experienced the highest percentage of childhood abuse (including sexual abuse) over non-violent offenders or offenders who have been violent only outside of the home. In terms of delinquency and criminality in general, Widom's review of the literature addressing an intergenerational transmission of violence resulted in her conclusion that there is little evidence to indicate lasting effects of exposure to violence on violent criminal acts in adulthood.

The controversy over the cycle of violence perspective has been presented, and it was noted that studies have shown more deviation from than conformity to an intergenerational transmission of violence. Biological and genetic contributors to abuse were discussed, and it was noted that the

cycle of violence perspective needs to be studied further. Methodological problems were also presented, including the veracity of self-reports of spousally abusive behavior, need for first-hand information provided by the male abuser, differentiation between two forms of abuse (i.e., exposure to parent-parent abuse and to parent-child abuse), clear definitions to what constitutes violence or abuse in a particular study, and the need for appropriate comparison groups.

The questions forming the basis of the present study originated as a result of the review of the literature on intergenerational transmission of violence (in terms of childhood exposure to family violence) and spousal abuse, and are described in Chapter III.

CHAPTER III

Research Design and Methodology

Introduction

This is a descriptive study, the overall purpose of which was to examine childhood exposure to family violence (including exposure to both parent-parent abuse and parent-child abuse) in male federal offenders. Specifically, the purpose of this study was to examine frequencies, percentages and patterns for two groups of male federal offenders: those who are spousally abusive and a second group of spousally non-abusive males, in terms of the following questions:

1. Of the spousally abusive group, what proportion of males have had prior relationships in which they were also abusive?
2. As children, what proportion of the spousally abusive group experienced parent-child physical abuse in their family-of-origin?
3. As children, what proportion of the spousally abusive group were exposed to parent-parent physical abuse?

3a. Of the spousally abusive men who were exposed to parent-parent abuse, what proportion actually saw parent-parent abuse?

4. What proportion of the spousally abusive group were exposed to both parent-parent abuse and experienced parent-child abuse (i.e., a double dose of violence)?
5. As children, what proportion of the spousally non-abusive group experienced parent-child physical abuse in their family-of-origin?
6. As children, what proportion of the spousally non-abusive group were exposed to parent-parent physical abuse?

6a. Of the spousally non-abusive men who were exposed to parent-parent abuse, what proportion actually saw parent-parent abuse?

7. What proportion of the spousally non-abusive group were exposed to both parent-parent abuse and experienced parent-child abuse (i.e., a double dose of violence)?

8. Of the spousally abusive group, what proportion of males are also violent outside of the home?

9. Of the spousally non-abusive group, what proportion of males are violent outside of the home?

10. How many spousally abusive males have siblings who are physically abusive of others?

11. How many spousally non-abusive males have siblings who are physically abusive of others?

Sample

Data provided by a sample of 75 male federal offenders who were referred to Forensic Assessment and Community Services (FACS), Interpersonal and Family Skills (IFS), a division of Alberta Hospital Edmonton, between June 1, 1991 and September 30, 1992 were included in this study. Males were referred to FACS/IFS by Correctional Services Canada Case Management Officers or Parole Officers requesting treatment and/or treatment recommendations for these federal offenders. Before recommendations for treatment were made and/or treatment within Interpersonal and Family Skills commenced, all males completed an extensive, uniform assessment package.

While a total of 106 federal offenders were referred to Interpersonal and Family Skills between June 1, 1991 and September 30, 1992, 31 males

did not commence and/or complete the assessment package for reasons such as parole revocation, re-incarceration or being unlawfully at large, and were therefore not included in the present study.

A substantial proportion of male federal offenders are referred to Forensic Assessment and Community Services (FACS) annually for treatment and/or treatment recommendations and/or psychological assessment generally; however, some male federal offenders are referred to private agencies and some male federal offenders are not referred for treatment and/or assessment at all. It is not possible to determine what proportion of male federal offenders (in Canada, in Alberta, and/or in Edmonton and surrounding area) are referred to FACS/IFS.

The entire sample of 75 male federal offenders was divided into two groups: one group consisted of males who indicated a history of spousally abusive behavior (n=62), and a second group consisted of males who indicated no history of spousally abusive behavior (n=13). In terms of confidentiality, assessment data were sorted numerically by FACS file number, and each male was then assigned a number from 1 to 75 for the purpose of the present study.

Assigning Group Membership

In the present study, males were included in the spousally abusive group if they had used physical force against their wife or partner one or more times, as determined by a positive response to any of the questions listed below. Males were included in the non-violent group if they responded in the negative to all of the following questions:

1. Have you ever felt so angry with your partner that you have physically hit or slapped or shoved her? (yes/no) (From the FACS-VQ, question E36.)
2. Have you ever slapped or shoved a partner in a previous relationship? (yes/no) (From the FACS-VQ, question E37.)
3. When was the last time you hit someone? Was this your wife or partner? (yes/no) (From the FACS-VQ, question G3.)
4. How many times have you hit your wife or partner so hard that she had to be treated in hospital? (From the FACS-VQ, question G4.)
5. Have you ever been in a fight using weapons since you were 18 years old? (yes/no) If yes, was this with your wife or partner? (yes/no) (From the FACS-VQ, question G5.)
6. When was the last time you were (physically) violent with your wife/partner? (From the Men's Interview Schedule, question 1.)
7. How many times have you physically abused ... your wife/partner? (From the Men's Interview Schedule, question 4.)
8. When was the first time ever that you were violent with a partner in a relationship (wife/girlfriend/ partner)? (From the Men's Interview Schedule, question 8.)
9. If the male's self-report in terms of his criminal history included assault charge(s) against past or present partners. (From the Special Problems Unit History Outline, question 3.)

Exposure to Violence: Parent-Child Physical Abuse

In the present study, exposure in childhood to family violence in terms of parent-child physical abuse was determined if the male reported ever having been physically hit by a parent, and/or if he reported having been

physically abused in childhood. Overall, exposure to violence in terms of parent-child physical abuse was determined by a positive response to one or more of the following questions:

1. Were either of your parents ever violent toward you as a child? (From the Men's Interview Schedule, question 23.)
2. Were other family members ever violent toward you as a child? (From the Men's Interview Schedule, question 24.)
3. How often were you hit by a parent ... with a belt or stick, kicked, punched, etc.? Responses other than "never" determined inclusion in this group. (From the FACS-VQ, question B57[b].)
4. Were you ever hit so badly by a parent that you had to take time off school? (yes/no) Get medical help? (yes/no) (From the FACS-VQ, question B58.)
5. If the male reported experiencing physical abuse in childhood. (From the Special Problems Unit History Outline, question 4.)

Exposure to Violence: Parent-Parent Physical Abuse

Exposure in childhood to parent-parent physical abuse was determined in the present study if the male gave a positive response to any of the following questions:

1. How often did one of your parents hit the other? Responses other than "never" determined inclusion in this group. (From the FACS-VQ, question B51.)
2. Was your father ever violent toward your mother? (From the Men's Interview Schedule, question 22[a].)
3. Was your mother ever violent toward your father? (From the Men's Interview Schedule, question 22[b].)

4. How many of these fights did you actually see? Responses other than "none" (or no response) determined inclusion in this group. (From the FACS-VQ, question B55).

Witnessing Interparental Abuse

Witnessing interparental abuse was determined by examining responses to question 4 (above).

A Double Dose of Violence: Exposure to both Parent-Child Physical Abuse and Parent-Parent Physical Abuse

The results of the present study in terms of exposure to violence: parent-child physical abuse and parent-parent physical abuse were examined in order to determine what percentage of males experienced a double dose of violence.

Violence Outside of the Home

Males in each of the two groups were counted as being violent outside of the home if they responded positively to any the following questions:

1. How many times have you hit anyone (other than your wife or partner) so hard that they had to be treated in hospital? (From the FACS-VQ, question G4.)
2. Have you ever been in a fight using weapons since you were 18 years old? (yes/no) (From the FACS-VQ, question G5.)
3. Have you ever been violent toward other adults outside of your relationship with your partner? (From the Men's Interview Schedule, question 20.)

4. If the male's self-report of his criminal history included assault charge(s) against persons other than his past or present partner(s). (From the Special Problems Unit History Outline, question 3.)

Siblings' Physical Abuse of Others

Information about siblings' physical abuse of others in the present study was determined by the male's response to the following question:

1. Are your brothers and/or sisters physically abusive of others? (From the FACS-VQ, family-of-origin question.)

Research Instruments

In the present study, data from three research instruments: the Men's Interview Schedule (Appendix A), the Special Problems Unit History Outline (Appendix B), and the FACS-VQ (Appendix C) were examined in order to determine group membership, and to determine exposure to family-of-origin violence. Specifically, the FACS-VQ contains items which question the individual on multiple aspects of family and childhood, exposure to abuse, antisocial personality disorder, alcoholism and drug abuse, health, relationships, depression and anger, and a number of other scales, and has been in use since 1983 (Cadsky & Crawford, 1988). The Men's Interview Schedule and the Special Problems Unit History Outline are clinical interview schedules which were developed by psychologists and psychiatrists at FACS/IFS and have been refined over the years in order that particular areas be investigated in a consistent manner within the semi-structured portion of all assessments.

Data Collection

All data examined in the present study were provided by male federal offenders referred to Forensic Assessment and Community Services (FACS), Interpersonal and Family Skills (IFS) for treatment and/or treatment recommendations. Males were referred to FACS/IFS by Correctional Services Canada Case Management Officers or Parole Officers. Uniform assessments were conducted by treatment staff at FACS/IFS offices between June 1, 1991 and September 30, 1992. All participants signed a Consent to Release Information (Assessment), and a Statement of Informed Consent (Appendix D), in which voluntary participation and withdrawal from participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits were addressed.

Since vocabulary is known to be a critical sub-skill for reading ability (Sattler, 1990, p. 606), all participants also completed the Clarke Vocabulary Scale prior to commencing the assessment in order to determine whether their reading level was adequate to complete the various assessment measures. No men were excluded on the basis of an inadequate reading level (i.e., a score of less than 14 correct answers out of 40), and the mean score for males on the Clarke Vocabulary Scale has been found to be in the 67th percentile range (30 out of 40, or 75%).

Rosenbaum (1988) notes that one of the ethical considerations of conducting assessments and researching data in a forensic population is that data provided by offenders may be subpoenaed by the courts, and therefore, "the ability of the investigator to protect the confidentiality of the data should be considered in preparation of the informed consent" (p. 99). In order to maintain confidentiality, all files were assigned a 5-digit code number. For the current study, the file numbers were further sorted numerically, and each of the 75 respondents were assigned a number from 1 to 75 to further protect

their confidentiality. Participants were advised that all information provided in the assessment would be maintained in strict confidentiality by means of the 5-digit number. Further, within the Statement of Informed Consent (Appendix D), participants also gave consent for the use of information provided by them "for future research purposes."

Data Analysis

This is a descriptive study in which data were examined for frequency, percentages, and patterns. Where applicable, chi square (x^2) tests of significance (p=.05) were used to determine whether differences between the spousally abusive group and the spousally non-abusive group of male federal offenders were statistically significant. In terms of chi square analysis, k-correction for small cell factors was not employed. As Glass and Hopkins (1984, p. 288) note:

> Until recently, it was thought that x^2 should not be used unless the *minimum* expected frequencies (i.e., nP_e) were five or more in each cell. Roscoe and Byars (1971, 1979), Conover (1974), and Camilli and Hopkins (1977, 1979) have shown that the x^2-statistic works well even when the *average* expected frequency is as low as 2. (Note that *average* expected frequency is less restrictive than *minimum* expected frequency.) In addition Camilli and Hopkins (1977) found that the Yates "correction for continuity" that is usually recommended for 2 x 2 x^2 tests of independence is not only unnecessary, but causes the already conservative values for alpha to be even more conservative. Fisher's exact probability test for 2 x 2 contingency tables with very small expected frequencies is often recommended, but is unnecessary

since the x^2-test of association gives accurate probability statements even with very small *n's* (Camilli and Hopkins, 1979).

Responses to the questions in each of the categories under investigation (outlined above) were compared both for the entire sample (n=75), and also within each of the spousally abusive (n=62) and spousally non-abusive (n=13) group of males.

Delimitations

In order that the assessment data examined in the present study be consistent, it was decided that the sample for this study consist only of male federal offenders who had been referred to FACS/IFS for assessment between June 1, 1991 and September 30, 1992. Second, because spousal abuse includes a broad range of behaviors, including (but not limited to) emotional abuse (i.e., coercion; threats; intimidation; economic abuse; minimization, denial and blame of abusive behavior; demeaning comments, etc.) and sexual abuse, it was decided for the present study to examine physically abusive behavior only, both in terms of childhood exposure to family violence (parent-child physical abuse and parent-parent physical abuse), and to determine membership for the present sample to either a spousally abusive or spousally non-abusive group.

Finally, this study was intended as descriptive rather than correlational or causal-comparative research.

Limitations

Although four methodological problems frequently found in the research on exposure to violence in childhood were avoided (i.e., the paucity of information provided by male abusers, the tendency not to distinguish

between exposure to parent-child abuse and parent-parent abuse, failure to define what constitutes abuse, and lack of an appropriate comparison group), other methodological problems could not be avoided. Specifically, a limitation of this study is that the category for sibling violence was determined by participants' responses to one question. Another limitation is that, because only data provided by male federal offenders referred to FACS/IFS between June 1, 1991 and September 30, 1992 were examined, the sample in this study may not be representative of all federal offenders, or of provincial offenders, or of spousally abusive men who do not have a criminal record.

CHAPTER IV
Results

Group Membership

Data examined for the sample of 75 male federal offenders revealed that a considerable number of males (n=62) reported being physically abusive toward present and/or past partners, while only slightly more than one-sixth of males in the entire sample denied any incidents of physically abusive behavior against present and/or past partners (n=13).

Table 1

Group Membership

Group	n	%
Spousally Abusive Males	62	82.7%
Spousally Non-Abusive Males	13	17.3%
Total Sample	75	100%

Physical Abuse in Previous Relationships

As outlined in Table 2, over one-half of spousally abusive males reported being physically abusive in past as well as present relationships.

Table 2

Physical Abuse in Previous Relationships

Spousally Abusive Males	n	%
Physically abusive in present relationship only	27	48.2%
Physically abusive in both present and past relationships	29	51.8%
Total	56	100%

Note that six spousally abusive men did not respond adequately to the questions determining abuse in both past and/or present relationships, and were therefore excluded from this category only. The number of spousally abusive men in this category is therefore 56 rather than 62.

Exposure to Violence: Parent-Child Physical Abuse

Of the entire sample of 75 federally sentenced male offenders, 60 men (i.e., 80%) experienced parent-child abuse. Thus, only a small proportion of the entire sample (i.e., one-fifth) were not physically abused as children.

As outlined in Table 3, a similar percentage of spousally abusive and spousally non-abusive men experienced parent-child physical abuse, and chi square analysis revealed no statistically significant difference between the two groups (Appendix E).

Table 3

Exposure to Violence: Parent-Child Physical Abuse

Parent-Child Abuse	Entire Sample		Abusive Males		Non-abusive Males	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Experienced Parent-Child Abuse	60	80.0%	50	80.6%	10	76.9%
Did Not Experience Parent-Child Abuse	15	20.0%	12	19.4%	3	23.1%
Total	75	100%	62	100%	13	100%

x^2 (1) = 0.093, p<.05

Exposure to Violence: Parent-Parent Physical Abuse

Of the entire sample of 75 males, six men (one spousally non-abusive male and five spousally abusive males) did not provide sufficient information to determine membership for this category and were therefore excluded from this category only. Thus, the total sample for this category is 69 rather than 75 males (i.e., 57 spousally abusive males and 12 spousally non-abusive males).

As shown in Table 4, of the entire sample, 71% were exposed to parent-parent physical abuse as children. When this is broken down into group membership, more spousally abusive males than spousally non-abusive males were exposed to parent-parent abuse - that is, 71.9% and 66.7% respectively were exposed to interparental abuse as children.

However, chi square analysis of these two variables (Appendix F) found no statistically significant difference between the two groups.

Table 4

Exposure to Parent-Parent Physical Abuse

Category	Entire Sample		Abusive Males		Non-abusive Males	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Exposed to Parent-Parent Physical Abuse	49	71.0%	41	71.9%	8	66.7%
Not Exposed to Parent-Parent Physical Abuse	20	29.0%	16	28.1%	4	33.3%
Total	69	100%	57	100%	12	100%

x^2 (1) = 0.133, p<.05

Witnessing Interparental Physical Abuse

As noted in Table 5, of the 49 men in the entire sample who were exposed to parent-parent physical abuse, 83.7% witnessed (i.e., actually saw) interparental physical abuse as children. Broken down into group membership, a somewhat greater proportion of spousally abusive males (85.4%) than spousally non-abusive males (75.0%) actually witnessed parent-parent physical abuse as children. Chi square analysis indicated no statistically significant difference between these two groups on this variable (Appendix G).

Table 5

Witnessing Interparental Physical Abuse

Males' Exposed to Parent-Parent Physical Abuse in Childhood	Entire Sample n	%	Abusive Males n	%	Non-abusive Males n	%
Actually witnessed parent-parent physical abuse	41	83.7%	35	85.4%	6	75.0%
Exposed to parent-parent physical abuse but did not actually witness it	8	16.3%	6	14.6%	2	25.0%
Total	49	100%	41	100%	8	100%

x^2 (1) = 0.527, p<.05

A Double Dose of Violence: Exposure to both Parent-Child Physical Abuse and Parent-Parent Physical Abuse

Table 6 outlines those males who were exposed to a double dose of violence in childhood -- that is, males who were exposed to both parent-parent physical abuse and parent-child physical abuse. For this category only, all males who provided insufficient information to determine either exposure to parent-child abuse or exposure to parent-parent abuse were excluded. Thus, of the entire sample of 75 males, six men (one from the spousally non-abusive group and five from the spousally abusive group) were excluded for this reason. Similarly, the percentages and numbers of men in this category will not necessary match the numbers in tables detailing exposure to only parent-child abuse or exposure to parent-parent abuse.

Of the 69 males in the entire sample for this category, 44 men (63.8%) experienced both parent-child and parent-parent abuse. Broken down into group membership, 63.2% of spousally abusive males and 66.7% of spousally non-abusive males experienced a double dose of violence. Chi square analysis revealed no statistically significant difference between these two groups on this variable (Appendix H).

Table 6

A Double Dose of Violence

A Double Dose of Violence	Entire Sample		Abusive Males		Non-abusive Males	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Experienced a Double Dose of Violence	44	63.8%	36	63.2%	8	66.7%
Did not experience a Double Dose of Violence	25	36.2%	21	36.8%	4	33.3%
Total	69	100%	57	100%	12	100%

x^2 (1) = 0.053, p<.05

Violence Outside of the Home

Of the entire sample of 75 male federal offenders, three men (one spousally abusive male and two spousally non-abusive males) did not provide sufficient information to score this question and were therefore

excluded from this category only. Of the 72 remaining males in the overall sample, 69 are violent outside of the home and three are not violent outside of the home. As detailed in Table 7, when broken down into a spousally abusive group (n=61) and a spousally non-abusive group (n=11) of males, 96.7% of the former group and 90.9% of the latter group of males are violent outside of the home. In terms of the difference between these two groups on this variable, chi square analysis revealed no statistically significant difference (Appendix I).

Table 7

Proportion of Males who are Violent Outside of the Home

Category	Entire Sample		Abusive Males		Non-Abusive Males	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Violent Outside of the Home	69	95.8%	59	96.7%	10	90.9%
Not Violent Outside of the Home	3	4.2%	2	3.3%	1	9.1%
Total	72	100%	61	100%	11	100%

x^2 (1) = 0.788, p<.05

Siblings' Physical Abuse of Others

Of the 75 males in the entire sample, 14 men were excluded from this category (10 spousally abusive males and four spousally non-abusive males) because they did not respond to this question, and one spousally abusive

male was excluded from this category because he has no siblings. The total number of males for this category is therefore 60.

Table 8

Siblings' Physical Abuse of Others

Category	Entire Sample		Abusive Males		Non-Abusive Males	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Siblings Are Physically Abusive of Others	15	25.0%	11	21.6%	4	44.4%
Siblings Not Physically Abusive of Others	45	75.0%	40	78.4%	5	55.6%
Total	60	100%	51	100%	9	100%

x^2 (1) = 2.135, $p<.05$

As shown in Table 8, approximately 50% fewer spousally abusive than spousally non-abusive males have siblings who are physically abusive of others. Nonetheless, chi square analysis revealed no statistically significant difference between these two groups on this variable (Appendix J).

Summary

Of the 75 federally sentenced male offenders in the present study, a considerable number (62 men) reported being spousally abusive. However, only slightly more than one-half of the spousally abusive men reported physically abusive behavior in both present and past relationships, while the

remainder of the spousally abusive men noted physically abusive behavior in their present relationship only.

In terms of childhood exposure to violence, only a small proportion of males in the entire sample (20%) did not experience parent-child physical abuse, and this was consistent for both the spousally abusive group and the spousally non-abusive group of males (19.4% and 23.1% respectively). Similarly, a considerable proportion of men in the entire sample were exposed to interparental physical abuse, and roughly only one-third of males in each the entire sample (29%), the spousally abusive group (28.1%), and the spousally non-abusive group (33.3%) were not exposed to parent-parent physical abuse. Further, 83.7% of the males who were exposed to interparental physical abuse in childhood actually witnessed (i.e., saw) incidents of parent-parent physical abuse; however, approximately ten percent more spousally abusive males than spousally non-abusive males actually witnessed interparental physical abuse (85.4% and 75.0% respectively).

A notable proportion of males in the entire sample (63.8%) were exposed to both parent-child physical abuse and parent-parent physical abuse. However, in terms of group membership, it is interesting to note that slightly fewer abusive males (63.2%) than non-abusive males (66.7%) experienced a double dose of violence.

Of the entire sample of 72 males who responded adequately to determine membership in this category, an overwhelming number (69 men, or 95.8%) reported that they are violent outside of the home. Of note is that while only a very small proportion of men in the entire sample are not violent outside of the home, almost three times as many spousally non-abusive as spousally abusive males are not violent outside of the home (9.1% and 3.3%

respectively). And, in terms of siblings' physical abuse of others, a substantial percentage of males in the entire sample have siblings who are not physically abusive of others (75%). In fact, it is surprising to note that considerably more spousally abusive men reported that their siblings are not physically abusive of others (78.4%) than did spousally non-abusive males (55.6%).

Finally, it is interesting to note that chi square analysis (p=.05) consistently revealed no statistically significant difference between the spousally abusive and spousally non-abusive groups on the variables studied.

Chapter V

Discussion and Conclusion

Overview

The purpose of this study was to examine data pertaining to exposure in childhood to family violence in federally sentenced male offenders. The entire sample of male federal offenders was divided into two groups: those who had ever been spousally abusive (n=62), and those who had no history of spousal abuse (n=13). Specifically, the following areas were studied:

- percentage of spousally abusive males who have had prior relationships in which they were also physically abusive
- proportion of males in each group who experienced parent-child physical abuse
- proportion of males in each group who were exposed to parent-parent physical abuse
- proportion of males in each group who actually saw (i.e., witnessed) interparental physical abuse
- proportion of males in each group who experienced a double dose of violence (i.e., who were exposed to both parent-child physical abuse and parent-parent physical abuse)
- proportion of males in each group who are (also) violent outside of the home
- number of males in each group whose siblings are physically abusive of others

A description of the findings in each of these areas will be reviewed and discussed.

Group Membership

Of the 75 males in the entire sample, 62 men (82.7%) reported a history of physically abusive behavior against past and/or present partners. Dutton and Hart state that there is some *"prima facie"* evidence which suggests that federal offenders may demonstrate high rates of (committing) family violence (1992, p. 101), and this is supported in the present study.

Of note, however, is that high rates of spousal abuse are not limited to a federal offender population. For example, in a study of Vancouver couples who requested counselling from Family Services (Russell, Lipov, Phillips & White, 1989), a high proportion of males (76.2%) had also been spousally physically abusive. However, since Russell *et al.* note that one-half of the non-violent men in their study admitted to being violent in previous (but not present) relationships (p. 85), the actual rate of abusive men in the Russell *et al.* study increases significantly to 88% of men with any history of spousal abuse and only 12% of men with no history of spousal abuse. These findings underscore the omnipresence of spousal abuse in both an offender and non-offender population.

Of interest in the present study is that, considering the forensic setting in which assessments took place, it is somewhat surprising that such a large proportion of the male federal offenders openly reported what is, in fact, criminal behavior. This may be interpreted in several ways. For example, one reason for such apparently open self-reporting within a forensic setting (in which a recommendation for treatment is not infrequently viewed with extreme antipathy) may be that men in the current study viewed physically abusive behavior as "normal" and "expected" rather than as "deviant" or "criminal," and were therefore not reluctant to report it. One might also submit that because so many men in the sample openly reported physically

abusive behavior toward their partners(s), both the reliability of the males' self-report data in the entire assessment generally, and the self-report data specifically of males who reported no spousal abuse, is improved.

Physical Abuse in Previous Relationships

In the present study, within the spousally abusive group a similar number of males reported being physically abusive in their present relationship only (48.2%) as males who reported physically abusive behavior in both present and past relationships (51.8%). While six of the 62 spousally abusive males failed to respond adequately to questions that determined physical abuse in both past and/or present relationships, none of the remaining 56 spousally abusive men indicated that the questions were not applicable to them. In other words, one can surmise that all of these 56 spousally abusive men have had more than one relationship. In fact, as noted in the discussion of methodological problems in Chapter II, the sample in the present study not infrequently reported having had numerous intimate relationships, and this in itself may provide some direction in terms of future research.

From a social learning perspective, which espouses a generational transfer of violence, it seems reasonable to expect that an individual would manifest a particular "learned behavior" with some consistently. The findings of the present study in terms of physically abusive behavior in past (as well as present) relationships, however, do not support a social learning -- or generational transfer of violence -- perspective, and in the current study, the results of this particular category form one of the strongest arguments against a social learning theory of spousal abuse. At least within a male

federal offender population, this is an area in which further research is indicated.

Exposure to Violence: Parent-Child Physical Abuse

Straus, Gelles and Steinmetz observe that *"almost everyone in our society hits his or her children"* (1980, p. 106), and Kalmuss concludes that "parent-child hitting ... may be so common that it is not perceived as physical aggression, but rather as socially acceptable discipline" (1984, p. 16). These observations are supported in the present study, in which a full 80% of the entire sample of male federal offenders reported exposure to parent-child physical abuse. This is a considerably greater proportion of males than the 41% of federally incarcerated offenders in Dutton and Hart's (1992) study who reported "that they were seriously abused as a child or adolescent" (p. 105), especially when one considers that the latter study included *all* types of abuse as well as exposure to abuse in both childhood and adolescence. When broken down into experiencing physical violence only, 31.4% of Dutton and Hart's entire sample experienced physical abuse in childhood or adolescence according to institutional file reviews. That is, 41.4% of family violence offenders files indicated same, and 29.9% and 14.9% of stranger violence and non-violent offenders files revealed family-of-origin physical abuse (p. 105). However, one should bear in mind that this data was derived from a review of institutional files rather than offender self-reports. It is important to note also that the criteria in the present study to determine parent-child abuse utilized a zero tolerance level (i.e., parent-child physical abuse, including hitting, was not considered acceptable, even at the lowest frequency), and therefore a positive response to just *one* of the questions

determining exposure to parent-child abuse resulted in inclusion to this group.

Within the spousally abusive group of men in the current study, 80.6% were exposed to parent-child physical abuse, and this supports the findings of previous studies in which spousally abusive males were frequently found to have experienced physical abuse in childhood (Caesar, 1988; Carter, Stacey & Shupe, 1988; Kalmuss, 1984; Rosenbaum & O'Leary, 1981). It is important to note, however, that a similar proportion of the spousally non-abusive group in the present study (76.9%) also experienced parent-child abuse. Clearly, exposure to parent-child physical abuse in this study does not discriminate between spousally abusive males and spousally non-abusive males, and for this reason an intergenerational transmission of violence is not supported. These results do, however, lend support to Herrenkohl, Herrenkohl and Toedter's observation that there are likely several factors (besides parent-child abuse) in both one's past and present life that have equal influence on marital violence (1983), and this is another area in which further research is indicated.

Exposure to Violence: Parent-Parent Physical Abuse

The proportion of spousally abusive men in the present study who were exposed to parent-parent physical abuse (71.9%) is considerably higher than that found in Widom's (1989) study, in which only 16%-17% of males who reported witnessing severe family aggression in childhood reported marital aggression as adults (p. 24). However, it is important to note that, while the sample in the present study consists of federally sentenced male offenders, Widom's study consisted of a review of large-scale national surveys.

The majority of men in the present study were exposed to interparental abuse in childhood (i.e., 71% of the entire sample), and approximately only one-third of respondents in each of the entire sample, the spousally abusive group, and the spousally non-abusive group reported no exposure to parent-parent abuse (29%, 28.1%, and 33.3% respectively). Compared to the results of a study of Vancouver couples by Russell, Lipov, Phillips and White (1989), in which 76.2% of males had been spousally physically abusive two or more times, only 33% of the non-violent males and 55% of violent males in the Russell *et al.* study had observed parental violence, leading these researchers to note (despite the fact that differences did not reach statistical significance) "a strong trend" towards a more substantial proportion of violent males than non-violent males having experienced parental violence (p. 85). As noted previously, one must also bear in mind that one-half of the nonviolent males in the Russell *et al.* study were violent in previous (but not present) relationships (p. 85). In the present study, however, while the proportion of spousally abusive and spousally non-abusive males is similar to that found in the Russell *et al.* study (i.e., 82.7% and 17.3% respectively in the present study, compared to 76.2% and 23.8% in the Russell *et al.* study), a similar percentage of spousally abusive males (71.9%) as spousally non-abusive males (66.7%) in the present study were exposed to interparental abuse as children, but not all of these men became spousally abusive as adults.

In the present sample, therefore, exposure in childhood to interparental abuse was not found to discriminate between spousally abusive and spousally non-abusive males, and a perspective of spousal abuse as learned behavior (i.e., a generational transfer of violence) is once again not clearly supported when a comparison group is employed. This is not to say

that an insignificant proportion of males in the present study were exposed to interparental abuse. Rather, results in the current study raise questions in terms of Russell's (1988, p. 195) and other researchers' claims that modelling accounts for the high incidence of male spouse abusers who observed interparental violence as children. For example, how does modelling explain the high incidence of both batterers *and* non-batterers who were exposed to interparental abuse in the present study? That is, modelling alone does not appear to *account for* males' spousally abusive behavior as adults, nor does modelling explain why 66.7% of the spousally non-abusive males in the current study were also exposed to parent-parent abuse but are not abusive as adults. And, neither is Russell's observation adequate to explain why 28.1% of spousally abusive males in the current study were not exposed to parent-parent physical abuse, yet are spousally abusive.

Current findings do, however, support DiLalla and Gottesman's observation (1991) that factors other than exposure to family-of-origin violence, such as temperament (p. 128), and having a criminal biological parent (p. 126) may be important in determining whether individuals display abusive behavior towards their spouse as adults, and this is an area in which future research is indicated.

A similar proportion of men in the present study were exposed to parent-child abuse as parent-parent abuse. That is, at least for a male federal offender population, exposure to interparental abuse is not rare. Thus, Kalmuss' observation that the relative rarity of parent-parent hitting "may increase its salience as a model for subsequent family behavior" (1984, p. 16) is not supported in the present study.

Further, there is also no evidence in the current study to support the debate as to whether the type of exposure to family violence in childhood is

related to later spousal abuse. For example, Carter, Stacey and Shupe (1988) note that "merely witnessing interparental violence seems the most important ... early 'source' of adult violence" (p. 270), and Howell and Pugliesi report on the "considerable body of spousal abuse research [which] concludes that individuals who abuse their spouses tend to come from families in which they witnessed [rather than experienced] parental abuse" (1988, p. 17). Rather, results of this study in terms of exposure to violence in childhood support and underscore the conclusion of those researchers who note that there is no one theory or perspective that adequately explains spousally abusive behavior (Howell & Pugliesi, 1988, p. 16). And, in view of the percentage of both spousally abusive and spousally non-abusive men in the present study who were exposed to family-of-origin violence, this study does lend support to Herrenkohl, Herrenkohl and Toedter's observation that "the dynamics that have been hypothesized to explain ... [an] intergenerational transmission of violence are diverse" (1983, p. 305).

Witnessing Interparental Abuse

In the present study, exposure to violence in terms of parent-parent abuse was not contingent upon whether or not the male had actually seen (i.e., witnessed/observed) interparental abuse as a child. However, while exposure to interparental abuse may reasonably be assumed to have a similar impact on a child whether they actually saw parent-parent physical abuse while it was occurring, or whether they only heard the interparental abuse, or whether they only saw the aftermath of interparental abuse (i.e., black eyes, swollen lips, broken dishes, holes in walls, etc.), some studies specifically report the incidence of children who witnessed (or observed) interparental abuse rather than describe the incidence of children who were

exposed to interparental abuse, including, but not limited to, witnessing the abuse. Thus, for research purposes, the proportion of males who actually witnessed interparental physical abuse in the present study was also examined, and it was found that, of the 49 men in the entire sample who were exposed to interparental physical abuse in childhood, 41 men (83.7%) actually witnessed parent-parent physical abuse as children. One can thus reasonably compare the results in terms of exposure to parent-parent abuse in the present study to previous studies in which parent-parent abuse was observed or witnessed.

In the current study, while a considerable percentage of spousally abusive individuals (85.4%) came from families in which they witnessed parental abuse, a substantial (though smaller) proportion of spousally non-abusive males (75%) also witnessed interparental abuse as children. These findings underscore the importance of comparison groups in studies of spousal abuse. For example, the results in the current study are meaningful in terms of a generational transfer of violence only when the results of the non-abusive sample is compared to the abusive group.

A Double Dose of Violence: Exposure to both Parent-Child Physical Abuse and Parent-Parent Physical Abuse

Caesar (1988) examined violence in the families-of-origin of spousally abusive and spousally non-abusive males, and found that 27% and 0% respectively had experienced a "double dose" of violence. Bearing in mind the small number of non-abusive males in the present study, Caesar's findings are dramatically different from those of this study, in which a slightly *smaller* proportion of spousally abusive males (63.2%) than spousally non-abusive males (66.7%) were exposed to both parent-child physical abuse

and parent-parent physical abuse. As noted previously, however, Caesar's criteria for interparental abuse differs from that used in the present study in that her respondents were required to witness parent-parent abuse on two or more occasions. Similarly, Caesar's sample was coded in terms of parent-child abuse only if they considered their parent's discipline of them *or their siblings* to have been harsh or abusive.

Data in the present study indicate that a similar proportion of spousally abusive males as spousally non-abusive males have been exposed to parent-child physical abuse, have been exposed to and/or have witnessed parent-parent physical abuse, and have been exposed to both parent-child and parent-parent physical abuse. Membership to one or more of these categories has consistently failed to distinguished between the spousally abusive and the spousally non-abusive group of males in this study. In terms of the debate as to whether the type of exposure to violence in childhood is related to later spousal abuse, for the male federal offenders in the present study, type of exposure to violence did not discriminate batterers from non-batterers, and, inexplicably, a somewhat larger proportion of non-batterers than batterers experienced a double dose of violence. These findings do not support Kalmuss' study (1984), in which the probability of marital violence was dramatically increased when men were exposed to both parent-child hitting and parent-parent hitting. Of note, however, is that only 3.8% of respondents in Kalmuss' study were seriously spousally abusive, and Kalmuss ultimately noted that intergenerational patterns of spousal aggression, though consistent, are weak.

However, findings in the current study support DiLalla and Gottesman's argument that childhood exposure to family violence "is not the only familial cause of later violent ... behavior" (1991, p. 125), but that

temperament may be an important factor in determining whether individuals who were exposed to abuse are likely to display abusive behavior as adults.

Violence Outside of the Home

In the present study, of the entire sample of males who provided sufficient data to determine group membership for this category (n=72), 95.8% are violent outside of the home. Broken down into group membership, 96.7% of spousally abusive men and 90.9% of spousally non-abusive men are violent outside of the home. These findings indicate that an overwhelming proportion of men in the present study - regardless of group membership - are generally violent, even when compared with other federal offenders. For example, in Dutton and Hart's study of male federal offenders (1992, p. 104), 79.1% of males in the family violence group had also committed some form of non-family (or stranger) violence, compared to 95.8% of males in the entire sample in the current study. While Dutton and Hart's sample consisted of male federal offenders who were incarcerated (compared to the present sample of male federal offenders who were already in the community), this is an area in which future research is indicated.

For the spousally non-abusive group in the present study, the implication of these findings seems to be that these men are able to choose, and have control of, the situations in which and persons to whom they are physically violent, this despite the fact that a substantial proportion of the spousally non-abusive group in the present study were exposed to parent-child abuse (76.9%), and/or were exposed to parent-parent abuse (66.7%), and/or were exposed to a double dose of violence (66.7%). Within their intimate relationships, however, these men did not behave in similar ways as had been modelled in their childhood, and while a social learning perspective

(in which "physical aggression between family members provides a likely model for the learning of aggressive behavior as well as for the appropriateness of such behavior within the family" [cited in Widom, 1989, p. 4]) is not supported within their intimate relationships, there is some support for this perspective in terms of their violence outside of the home.

In the current study, this category perhaps best demonstrates the poor fit of an intergenerational transmission of violence to explain physically abusive behavior overall (i.e., both within and outside of the home), and underscores Howell and Pugliesi's observation that the area of spousal abuse is can not be adequately explained by any one theory (1988, p. 16). This is also an area in which further research is needed.

Siblings' Physical Abuse of Others

Findings in this study in terms of siblings' physical abuse of others were particularly interesting. For example, while 95.8% of males in the total sample are violent outside of the home and 82.7% of males in the total sample are spousally abusive, only 25% of the entire sample reported that their siblings' are physically abusive of others. And, more than twice the proportion of spousally non-abusive males (44.4%) as spousally abusive males (21.6%) reported that their siblings' are physically abusive of others. While chi square analysis ($p=.05$) of siblings' physical abuse of others in the present study was not found to be statistically significant for these two groups, a very strong trend in this direction was observed.

These findings do not support a generational transfer of violence. For example, from this perspective one might expect that a similar proportion of siblings in each group would be physically abusive of others - especially in view of the fact that an overwhelming proportion of males in both groups are

themselves violent outside of the home. Instead, in the present study, of spousally abusive men and spousally non-abusive men, only 21.6% of the former group have siblings who are also physically abusive of others, while 44.4% of the spousally non-abusive group of men -- of whom 90.9% are violent outside of the home -- have siblings who are physically abusive of others. As Dobash and Dobash note, "if we discover that a man who beats his wife comes from a home in which his father beat his mother but that his three brothers do not beat their wives, then we have one case that appears to confirm the cycle of violence thesis and three that refute it" (cited in Pagelow, 1984, p. 249).

Finally, as previously noted, males' responses in terms of siblings' physical abuse of others was determined by a single question, and the information on siblings was determined by second hand (if not retrospective) data. Nonetheless, preliminary results indicate that a generational transmission of violence perspective is not supported when comparing sibling behavior, and this is an area in which future research is needed.

Future Research

In the present study an effort was made to examine childhood exposure to family violence in spousally abusive and spousally non-abusive male federal offenders. While some previous findings were supported in the present study in terms of exposure to violence and a generational transfer of violence, many others were not.

For example, in terms of a generational transfer of violence to explain spousal abuse, in the current study, while many men were exposed to parent-child physical abuse and/or parent-parent physical abuse, there were no statistically significant differences between the spousally abusive and

spousally non-abusive groups in terms of exposure to violence, and some of the spousally abusive males had not been exposed to family-of-origin violence at all. The influence of biological and genetic contributors to abuse (DiLalla and Gottesman, 1991) may be a useful framework for future research in this respect.

Overall, while the results of the present study consistently failed to support an intergenerational transmission of violence, this became apparent only because a comparison group of spousally non-abusive males were employed. For example, if only the data for the spousally abusive had been examined, a generational transfer of violence would have been supported in many of the areas studied, and this underscores the importance of employing comparison groups in future research.

The present study leaves several questions unanswered:

1. Is there a relationship between the length of an intimate relationship and the likelihood of physical abuse?
2. What factors contribute to a male's use of physical abuse in some intimate relationships but not in others?
3. In a male federal offender population, what impact does the frequency and/or length of incarceration have in terms of contributing to spousally abusive behavior and violent behavior outside of the home?
4. Besides exposure to violence, what present and past factors in a man's life influence spousally abusive behavior?
5. What factors influence physically non-abusive behavior in males who experienced parent-child physical abuse and/or interparental physical abuse? Are these factors different in an offender than a non-offender population?

These questions could be addressed in future research by using both qualitative and quantitative methods.

The present study, if replicated using a larger sample and a comparison group more equal in number, could yield data of considerable use. However, it is important to note that within a federal offender population, the proportion of each group of males in the this study may well reflect the actual proportion of spousally abusive and spousally non-abusive male offenders, and therefore comparison groups in future studies may also be disproportionate in number.

The utility and impact of this study with reference to educational psychology specifically merits discussion. In terms of early education and prevention, for example, it may be useful to address interparental abuse in the development of school-based programs in which family violence generally is addressed. In addition to the already existing focus on parent-child physical abuse and sexual abuse, for example, it may be quite useful to discuss exposure to interparental violence in the health curricula at the elementary, junior high, and high school level, with a different focus and goal at each level. From a counselling perspective, for example with violent men, violent children, or children from violent homes, a focus on responsibility and choices, and away from victimization or denial and blame is also underscored.

The impact of moral development and the use of physical violence generally and spousally abusive behavior specifically could be investigated using, for example, Lawrence Kohlberg's or Jean Piaget's theories of the levels of development of moral thought. The effect of cognitive development as it pertains to the use of physical violence could also be investigated using Piaget's theory. And, Erikson's eight stages of human development may be

particularly appropriate in forming the basis of future research of childhood exposure to family violence and later spousal abuse.

Future areas of investigation could also be broadened to include temperament, and genetic and environmental influences (besides childhood exposure to family violence). And, studies of the factors that contribute to spousally non-abusive males' violence outside of, but not within, the home would also be useful. It seems reasonable to submit that many factors (rather than one factor, such as childhood exposure to family violence) contribute to spousal abuse, and that these factors work in a synergistic fashion. A qualitative study of federal male offenders may be quite useful in this respect.

While we now know that many male offenders have been exposed to abuse in childhood, the affects of this abuse on later violent behavior are still unknown, particularly for non-abusive males who were exposed to family-of-origin violence. Finally, the present study confirms Widom's observation (1989) that, all told, there is still little evidence to indicate lasting effects of childhood exposure to family violence on later behavior.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Men's Interview Schedule

Men's Interview Schedule

1. a) When was the last time you were (physically) violent with your wife/partner:

   specific date _____

   b) What happened? (Look for components of physical, psychological, sexual, property damage)

   c) What injuries did your wife/partner receive in this last violent incident?

2. a) How many times has your current wife/partner had to receive medical help as a result of your violence?

   b) What types of medical treatment did she receive? (i.e., x-rays, casts, hospitalization, etc.)

3. How many times have the police been called to come to a fight between you and your wife?

4. How many times have you:

   - physically abused
   - psychologically abused
   - sexually abused
   - damaged property of your wife/partner in the last year (you were living together)?

5. What types of injuries has your wife/partner received during her entire relationship with you?

6. When was the first time in your current relationship you were violent with your wife/partner?

7. How many times have you assaulted her ever?

8. When was the first time ever that you were violent with a partner in a relationship (wife/girlfriend/partner)?

9. a) How many relationships have you had?

   b) In what ways were you violent towards your partner in each of these relationships?

10. Why do you think you are violent to your wife/partner?

11. How long do you usually go between incidents when you are violent toward her?

12. a) Do you believe there is a pattern to your violent behavior?

    b) If so, what?

c) Where are you in that cycle now?

13. What do you think the impact is for your wife/partner when you are violent toward her?

14. a) Have you ever been under the influence of alcohol when you were violent with your wife/partner?

b) If yes, how many times?

c) How are these incidents different from the times you are sober and violent toward her?

15. a) Have you ever been under the influence of drugs when you were violent with your wife/partner?

b) If yes, which ones?

c) How many times?

d) How are these incidents of violence different from the times when you are not on drugs and violent toward her?

16. What types of physical injuries have you received during violent incidents with your current wife/partner?

17. Describe the various feelings (physical and emotional) you have after an incident of violence.

Note from FACS-VQ whether or not there are children at home. If so,

18. How do you discipline your children? Describe:

19. Has Child Welfare ever been involved with your current family? If so, are they still involved?

20. Have you ever been violent toward other adults outside of your relationship with your partner? If yes, describe:

21. What effect does being violent have on your life?

22. a) Was your father ever violent toward your mother? If yes, describe:

b) Was your mother ever violent toward your father? If yes, describe:

23. Were either of your parents ever violent toward you as a child? If yes, describe:

24. Were other family members ever violent toward you as a child? If yes, describe:

APPENDIX B

Special Problems Unit History Outline

Special Problems Unit History Outline

Name:_____ File #:_____ Interview Date:_____

Statement of Informed Consent (Treatment) explained and signed:_____

Reason for Interview: [Parole, Probation (dates), self-referral]

Present offense/target behavior: (official and patient's version)

Criminal History: (also jail time, federal, carry weapon, more charges pending?)

Childhood: (birth problems, milestones, enuresis)

(physical/sexual abuse)

(antisocial/violent, juvenile court, ran away, counselors)

School: (discipline, expelled/suspended, grades repeated/achieved)

Employment/Work History:

Year	Job	Duration	Why Leave?

Alcohol: (start, max, pattern, fights, blackouts, impaired, rehab)

Drugs: (start, type, inject, sell, prescription)

Medical History: (illnesses, operations, head injuries, meds, broken bones, allergies)

Psychiatric History: (assessments, therapists, hospital, medication, suicide)

Sexual and Marital: (age began, partners, marriages, children, extramarital, hookers, V.D., orientation, perversions)

Present Circumstances: (home, work, income, debts, hobbies)

Signature of Interviewer:_____

APPENDIX C

FACS-VQ

WHAT IS YOUR FAMILY NAME?..... .....

WHAT ARE YOUR FIRST NAMES?..... .....

WHAT IS YOUR DATE OF BIRTH?..... FACS #

HOW OLD ARE YOU?..... #

WHAT IS THE DATE TODAY?..... WB 1,0

WHO REFERRED YOU TO THIS CLINIC?.....

WHAT PROBLEM BROUGHT YOU HERE?.....

Mark with an 'X' if you discussed this problem with: (and whether they made the problem better or worse)		Did they make the problem:			
	discussed	better	same	worse	
Probation Officer					a.+1 0 -1
Marriage Counsellor					b.+1 0 -1
Wife or partner					c.+1 0 -1
Police					d.+1 0 -1
Lawyer					e.+1 0 -1
Priest or Clergy					f.+1 0 -1
Doctor					g.+1 0 -1
A Relative					h.+1 0 -1
A Friend					i.+1 0 -1
A telephone crisis line or counselling service					j.+1 0 -1
Other.....					k.+1 0 -1

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO GAIN BY COMING HERE?.....

.....

Are you or any of your family presently involved with any social agency (eg Child Welfare)? yes/no 1. 1,0

If yes, which?..... XX

WHAT IS YOUR FAMILY NAME?..... .....

WHAT ARE YOUR FIRST NAMES?..... .....

WHAT IS YOUR DATE OF BIRTH?..... FACS #

HOW OLD ARE YOU?..... #

WHAT IS THE DATE TODAY?..... WB 1,0

WHO REFERRED YOU TO THIS CLINIC?.....

WHAT PROBLEM BROUGHT YOU HERE?.....

Mark with an 'X' if you discussed this problem with: (and whether they made the problem better or worse)		Did they make the problem:			
	discussed	better	same	worse	
Probation Officer					a.+1 0 -1
Marriage Counsellor					b.+1 0 -1
Wife or partner					c.+1 0 -1
Police					d.+1 0 -1
Lawyer					e.+1 0 -1
Priest or Clergy					f.+1 0 -1
Doctor					g.+1 0 -1
A Relative					h.+1 0 -1
A Friend					i.+1 0 -1
A telephone crisis line or counselling service					j.+1 0 -1
Other.....					k.+1 0 -1

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO GAIN BY COMING HERE?.....

.....

Are you or any of your family presently involved with any social agency (eg Child Welfare)? yes/no 1. 1,0

If yes, which?..... XX

A. YOUR FAMILY AND CHILDHOOD

1. Where were you born?.....

   Where were you raised (mainly)?.....

2. How many brothers..... a)#

   sisters..... b)#

   stepbrothers..... c)#

   stepsisters..... do you have? d)#

3. Did your parents separate before you were 16 years old? yes/no

   If yes, how many times?..... #

   for how long? (total)..... mths #

   did they separate permanently? yes/no

   for what reason? .....

   how old were you then?..... #

4. Who mainly brought you up? (circle one)

   1. both parents
   2. mother
   3. father
   4. grandparents
   5. step- or foster-parents
   6. other.....

5. How long did you spend in foster-homes or juvenile institutions?..... 5. yrs #

6. Before you were 16 years old, did your family move to a different part of the country, or to a different country? yes/no

   If yes, how many moves?..... b. #

   how old were you then?..... c. #

7. Do you think your childhood was happy? yes/no

   Please explain:.....
   .....

B. AS A CHILD, BEFORE AGE 15

8. Did you get along well with your father?	yes/no	8. 1,0
9. Did you get along well with your mother?	yes/no	9. 1,0
10. Did you deliberately stay out late at night?	yes/no	10. 1,0
11. Did you pick fights during sports matches or parties?	yes/no	11. 1,0
12. Did your father make most of the decisions around the house?	yes/no	12. 1,0
13. Did you ever physically hit your brother?	yes/no	13. 1,0 X
14. Do you think your father neglected you?	yes/no	14. 1,0
15. Were you hit for wetting the bed?	yes/no	15. 1,0
16. Was your mother ever cruel to your father?	yes/no	16. 1,0
17. Were you a member of a street gang?	yes/no	17. 1,0
18. Did you ever physically hit your mother?	yes/no	18. 1,0
19. Were you more afraid of your father than mother?	yes/no	19. 1,0
20. Did you often tell lies to your parents?	yes/no	20. 1,0
21. Did your father criticize you often?	yes/no	21. 1,0
22. Did you often disobey your father?	yes/no	22. 1,0
23. Did you ever physically hit a teacher?	yes/no	23. 1,0
24. Did you get drunk a lot when under-age?	yes/no	24. 1,0
25. Was your mother more bossy than your father?	yes/no	25. 1,0
26. Did your mother spoil you?	yes/no	26. 1,0
27. Did you deliberately get your brother or sister in trouble with your parents?	yes/no	27. 1,0 X
28. Did you deliberately set fires?	yes/no	28. 1,0
29. Did you ever physically hit your sister?	yes/no	29. 1,0 X
30. Was your father more bossy than your mother?	yes/no	30. 1,0
31. Did you ever steal from shops?	yes/no	31. 1,0
32. Did you ever physically hit your father?	yes/no	32. 1,0
33. Do you think your mother neglected you?	yes/no	33. 1,0
34. Was your father nagged at by your mother?	yes/no	34. 1,0
35. Were you classed as a troublemaker?	yes/no	35. 1,0

36. Were you ever arrested or sent to Juvenile Court?	yes/no	
37. Did you ever deliberately injure an animal?	yes/no	37. 1,0
38. Did your mother criticize you often?	yes/no	38. 1,0
39. Did you deliberately smash things at home when you were angry?	yes/no	39. 1,0
40. Did you ever run away from home overnight?	yes/no	40. 1,0
41. Did you ever fight with a policeman?	yes/no	41. 1,0
42. Did you often disobey your mother?	yes/no	42. 1,0
43. Did your father spoil you?	yes/no	43. 1,0
44. Were you always breaking rules and regulations?	yes/no	44. 1,0
45. Was your father ever cruel to your mother?	yes/no	45. 1,0
46. Did you ever smash up a car or barn (or similar)?	yes/no	46. 1,0
47. Did your mother make most of the decisions around the house?	yes/no	47. 1,0
48. Were you more afraid of your mother than father?	yes/no	48. 1,0
49. Before you were 16, did you ever see a doctor, or receive medication, because of your behaviour, or for seizures?	yes/no	49. 1,0
If yes, how old were you?.....		a.*
what medication(s) were you given?.....		

50. How often did you get into a physical fight with: (circle one in each column) — 50.

a. brother or sister?	b. other children?	
0. never	0. never	a. 0-5 X
1. less than once a month	1. less than once a month	b. 0-5
2. once a month	2. once a month	
3. more than once a month	3. more than once a month	
4. once a week	4. once a week	
5. more than once a week	5. more than once a week	

51. How often did one of your parents hit the other? (circle one) — 51. 0-5

0. never
1. less than once a month
2. once a month
3. more than once a month
4. once a week
5. more than once a week

>

52. Which parent started most of the arguments? (circle one)

mother / father / both equally / don't know — -1,+1,0

53. What were the arguments mostly about?.....

54. Which parent did most of the hitting? (circle one) — 54.

mother / father / both equally / don't know — -1,+1,0

55. How many of these fights did you actually see? (circle one) — 55.

0. none /1. some /2. half /3. most /4. almost all — 0-4

56. Did they ever fight so hard that one of them had to get medical help? yes/no — 56. a. 1,0

If yes, which one had the most injuries? (circle one): mother / father — b. +1,-1

57. How often were you hit by a parent (circle one in each column) — 57.

a. slapped with open hand?	b. hit with belt or stick, kicked, punched, etc?
0. never	0. never
1. less than once a month	1. less than once a month
2. once a month	2. once a month
3. more than once a month	3. more than once a month
4. once a week	4. once a week
5. more than once a week	5. more than once a week

a. 0-5

b. 0-5

mainly by: (circle one in each column)

mother	mother
father	father
both equally	both equally

c.-1,+1,0

d.-1,+1,0

58. Were you ever hit so badly by a parent that you had to — 58.

take time off school? yes/no — a. 1,0

get medical help? yes/no — b. 1,0

59. Before the age of 16, did you have any sexual activity which you did not want, and which included touching? yes/no — 59. a. 1,0

If yes, was it with your

father? yes/no — b. 1,0

mother? yes/no — c. 1,0

foster- or step-father? yes/no — d. 1,0

foster- or step-mother? yes/no — e. 1,0

brother? yes/no — f. 1,0

sister? yes/no — g. 1,0

other?.....yes/no — h. 1,0

how old were you?..... — i. #

and did you receive any counselling for this? yes/no — j. 1,0 >

60. When you were a teenager, did you:

a. often cook yourself meals?	yes/no	a. 1,0
b. wash the dishes?	yes/no	b. 1,0
c. clean your own room?	yes/no	c. 1,0
d. wash your laundry?	yes/no	d. 1,0
e. share in other household jobs?	yes/no	e. 1,0

61. Were you ever in a special class in school? yes/no 61a. 1,0

If yes, why?.....
and at what age?..... b. #

62. Are you still in school? yes/no 62. 1,0

63. What grades did you repeat?..... 63. #

64. What is the highest grade you completed?..... 64. #

65. Did you skip more than 5 days of school in any year except your last year? yes/no 65. 1,0

66. Were you expelled from school for bad behavior? yes/no 66. 1,0

If yes, why?.....

67. Have you taken any further training since leaving school? yes/no 67. 1,0

68. Did you go to college or university? yes/no 68. 1,0

69. How old were you when you first started dating?..... 69. #

70 How old were you when you first had sexual intercourse?..... 70. #

71. How old were you when you left home?..... 71. #

72. Which subjects in school did you strongly like or dislike? (mark with an X) 72.

	really liked	didn't mind	really disliked	
Reading				a.+1.0.-1
Languages				b.+1,0,-1
Spelling				c.+1,0,-1
Science				d.+1,0,-1
Art				e.+1,0,-1
Biology				f.+1,0,-1
Geography				g.+1,0,-1
Math				h.+1,0,-1
Phys Ed.				i.+1,0,-1

C. YOUR LIFE NOW

1. Since you left school, have you had a job (circle one): 4.all the time/3.most/2.half the time/1.less/0.not at all	1.0-4
2. How many jobs have you had since leaving school? (approx).....	2.#
3. How many of these have you left because of an argument or a fight?.....	3.#
4. Have you ever had more than 3 jobs in any period of 5 years? yes/no	4.1,0
5. Have you ever been unemployed for 6 months or more in any period of 5 years? yes/no	5.1,0
6. Do you have a steady, full-time job right now? yes/no	6.1,0
If yes, what is it?.....	a.#
how long have you had it?.....	b.mths#
If no, how long ago did you have one?.....	c. mths#
What type of job do you usually have?.....	d.#
7. What was your total gross income last year (approx)$.....	7.thsds#
8. Is your wife or common-law wife employed? (circle one): full-time / part-time / not at all	8. 2,1,0
9. What was her total gross income last year (approx)$.....	9.thsds#
9a. Who handles the money & pays the bills in your household? mainly me / mainly her / equally .	9a. 2,0,1
10. What are some of the things you like to do in your spare time?	
11. How long have you been living at your present address?.....	11.mth#
12. In the last 5 years, how many times have you moved	12.
within Edmonton?.....	a. #
between cities?.....	b. #
13. Has there ever been a time when you didn't have a regular place to live , for at least one month? yes/no	13.1,0

14. Do you enjoy hunting or shooting?	yes/no	14.1,0
15. Do you have a gun of any sort?	yes/no	15.1,0
16. Have you ever carried a weapon, such as a knife or a stick, to defend yourself with?	yes/no	16.1,0
If yes, do you still carry such weapons?	yes/no	a. 1,0
17. Have you ever taken lessons in the martial arts or self-defense?	yes/no	17.1,0
18. Do you drive a car?	yes/no	18.1,0
Do you drive a motorbike?	yes/no	a) 1,0
19. Do you have a drivers licence?	yes/no	19.1,0
20. Have you ever had a serious car or bike accident?	yes/no	20.1,0
21. How many traffic violations have you had? (approx).....		21.#
How long ago was the last one?.....		mths#
22. Has your driving licence ever been suspended?	yes/no	22. 1,0
If yes, how many times?.....		a.#
Have you ever been arrested for drunken driving, or driving under the influence of alcohol?	yes/no	b. 1,0
How many times have you been found guilty of impaired driving?.....		c.#

23. In the spaces below, please write down how much you drank

a) last week, or in the average week (including weekends),

b) the most you have ever drunk in a week, including weekends, during the period when you were drinking at your heaviest. In other words, your record.

	a) last week	b) heaviest week	
			1a.#
			2a.#
			3a.#
bottles or glasses of beer	.....	.....	1b.#
bottles of wine	.....	.....	2b.#
ounces of liquor	.....	.....	3b.#

24. Between what ages were you drinking most heavily?.....&..... 24.a.#
b.# >

25. Do you feel you are a normal drinker? (i.e. do you drink less than or as much as most other people?)	yes/no	25. 1,0
26. Does your wife, a parent, or other near relative ever worry or complain about your drinking?	yes/no	26. 1,0
27. Do you ever feel guilty about your drinking?	yes/no	27. 1,0
28. Do friends or relatives think you are a normal drinker?	yes/no	28. 1,0
29. Have you ever wanted to stop drinking, but couldn't?	yes/no	29. 1,0
30. Have you ever attended a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous, or attended AADAC or similar?	yes/no	30. 1,0
31. Has drinking ever created problems between you & your wife, a parent, or other near relative?	yes/no	31. 1,0
32. Have you ever gotten into trouble at work because of drinking?	yes/no	32. 1,0
33. Have you ever lost a job because of drinking?	yes/no	33. 1,0
34. Have you ever neglected your obligations, your family, or your work for two or more days in a row because you were drinking?	yes/no	34. 1,0
35. Has there ever been a period in your life when you could not do your ordinary daily work well unless you had had a drink?	yes/no	35. 1,0
36. Have you ever needed a drink just after getting up, and before breakfast?	yes/no	36. 1,0
37. Have you ever gone to anyone for help about your drinking?	yes/no	37. 1,0
38. Have you ever been in a hospital because of drinking?	yes/no	38. 1,0
39. Have you ever continued to drink even when you knew you had a serious physical illness that might be made worse by drinking?	yes/no	39. 1,0
40. Have you ever been arrested, even for a few hours, because of drunken behavior?	yes/no	40. 1,0
41. Have you ever gotten into a physical fight while drinking?	yes/no	41. 1,0
42. Have you ever noticed that you needed more alcohol to get as drunk as you used to?	yes/no	42. 1,0
43. Have you ever gone on a binge when you kept drinking for a couple of days without sobering up?	yes/no	43. 1,0 >

44. Have you ever had the shakes the day after a binge, or drank to stop getting the shakes? yes/no — 44. 1,0

45. Have you ever had blackouts while drinking, when you couldn't remember the next day what you had said or done? yes/no — 45. 1,0

46. In the spaces below, please write down how many times you have taken each drug — 46.

a) last week, or in the average week (including weekends).

b) the most you have ever taken in a week, during the period when you were using drugs the heaviest. In other words, your record.

c) altogether in your whole life.

	a) last week	b) heaviest week	c) whole life	
1 cannabis, hash, pot	.....	.....	.....	1a. 2a. 3a. 4a. 5a. 6a. 7a. 8a. 9a. 10a. 11a. 12a.
2 amphetamine, speed	.....	.....	.....	1b. 2b. 3b. 4b. 5b. 6b. 7b. 8b. 9b. 10b. 11b. 12b.
3 LSD, acid	.....	.....	.....	
4 PCP, angel dust	.....	.....	.....	
5 Ritalin, Talwin, T&R	.....	.....	.....	
6 MDA	.....	.....	.....	
7 MDMA, Ecstasy	.....	.....	.....	1c. 2c. 3c. 4c. 5c. 6c. 7c. 8c. 9c. 10c. 11c. 12c.
8 cocaine	.....	.....	.....	
9 heroin	.....	.....	.....	
10 sniffing glue, Amyl Nitrite, Rush, etc.	.....	.....	.....	
11 downers, Quaaludes, barbiturates, etc.	.....	.....	.....	
12 Pyribenzamine	.....	.....	.....	

13 Have you ever abused Valium, diet pills, or prescription drugs? yes/no — 13.1,0

47. Between what ages were you taking drugs most heavily? — 47.a.

.....&..... — b.

48. How old were you when you first took one of these drugs?..... — 48. #

49. Have you ever been found guilty of any criminal offense? yes/no	49. 1,0
If yes,	
How old were you when you were first convicted?.....	a. #
How long ago was your last conviction?.....	b. mths#
Have you ever been convicted of an offense where you could have been (or were) sentenced to a federal institution? (ie. 2 years or more) yes/no	c. 1,0
50. Right now, are you:	50.
a. waiting for charges to be laid? yes/no	a. 1,0
b. awaiting trial? yes/no	b. 1,0
c. awaiting sentence? yes/no	c. 1,0
d. on probation? yes/no	d. 1,0
e. on supervision after release from prison? yes/no	e. 1,0
51. During your whole life, what is the total length of time you have spent in prison (not on remand)?.....	51 mths#
52. Please write down your criminal record as well as you can:	52.
Year Offense Sentence Comments	prop.#
	pers.#
	viol.#
	drug.#
	total.#
	XX

D. YOUR HEALTH

1. Have you ever had any serious illnesses or operations? yes/no If yes, what?.....	1 1,0
2. Are you taking any medication prescribed by a doctor? yes/no If yes, what?.....	2 1,0
3. Do you have any allergies? yes/no If yes, what?.....	3 1,0
4. How many times in your life have you been knocked unconscious?..... When?..... How long were you unconscious?.....	4 #
5. How many times have you been admitted to hospital with a head injury?	5 #
6. Have you ever collapsed while you were sober? yes/no	6 1,0
7. Do you have dizzy spells? yes/no	7 1,0
8. How many headaches do you get a month (average)?.....	8 #
9. Does any part of your body ever feel numb, or tingling, for no reason? yes/no	9 1,0
10. Have you ever had any strange experiences, such as floating, being outside your body, thinking that things around you look strangely familiar, thinking that you are being watched, or any feelings like this, but not caused by drugs ? yes/no If yes, please describe them.....	10 1,0
11. Have you ever seen a psychiatrist before? yes/no have you ever seen a psychologist before? yes/no If yes, when was the last time?..... and what for?.....	11a. 1,0 b. 1,0 mth#
12. Have you ever been a patient on a psychiatric ward, or in a mental hospital? yes/no If yes, how many times?.....	12 1,0 #
13. Have you ever been prescribed tranquillizers or drugs to alter your mood or to make you less depressed? yes/no	13 1,0
14. Have you ever thought of killing yourself? yes/no If yes, when was the last time?.....	14 1,0 mths#
15. Have you ever tried to kill yourself? yes/no If yes, how many times?..... what did you do?.....	15 1,0 #
16. Which hand are you using to write these answers? left/right	16 L 1,0 R 1,0XX

E. YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

1. Right now, you are (circle one):	a. single b. common-law married c. legally married d. separated e. divorced f. widowed.	1a.1,0 b.1,0 c.1,0 d.1,0 e.1,0 f.1,0
2. Over the past few weeks, who have you been living with?	a. nobody b. parents c. wife d. girlfriend e. other:.....	2 a.1,0 b.1,0 c.1,0 d.1,0 e.1,0
3. If you are separated, how long ago did you separate?.....		3 mth#
4. If you are divorced, how long ago did you divorce?.....		4 mth#
5. What is the longest time you have been in a relationship with a woman?.....		5 a.mth#
b. Is that your present relationship?	yes/no	b.1,0
c. How many times have you been married?.....		c.#
d. How many different women have you lived with for more than 1 year, but never married?.....		d.#

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS APPLY TO YOUR WIFE OR GIRLFRIEND, EVEN IF YOU HAVE RECENTLY SEPARATED

What attracted you to her?.....		
e. How long have you been together?.....		e.mth#
f. Do you wish your present relationship to continue?	yes/no	f.1,0
g. Do you think it will?	yes/no	g.1,0
h. Does your partner wish your relationship to continue?	yes/no	h.1,0
i. How many times have you separated from her because you were not getting along?		i.
number of times separated for more than one day?.....		#
number of times separated for more than one week?.....		#
6. How many children under 16 are there living in your home?.....		6a.#
Do any of them have a behavior problem?	yes/no	b. 1,0
If yes, what?.....		>

7. Put an X in the box to show who makes most of the decisions about:

	mainly me	mainly her	both equally	7.
a. buying food				a. 1 -1 0
b. buying cars				b. 1 -1 0
c. buying furniture				c. 1 -1 0
d. where we live				d. 1 -1 0
e. raising children				e. 1 -1 0
f. where we go out together				f. 1 -1 0
g. where we go on holiday				g. 1 -1 0
h. what clothes she buys				h. 1 -1 0
i. visiting relatives				i. 1 -1 0

>

8. Please put an X in the box to show how much you agree or disagree with your partner on each of these problems:

	Always agree	Almost always agree	Some-times disagree	Often disagree	Almost always disagree	Always disagree	8.
1. spending money							1. 543210
2. recreation							2. 543210
3. religion							3. 543210
4. showing affection							4. 543210
5. friends							5. 543210
6. sex							6. 543210
7. correct behavior							7. 543210
8. philosophy of life							8. 543210
9. dealing with parents or in-laws							9. 543210
10. your goals & other important ideas							10.543210
11. amount of time you spend together							11.543210
12. making major decisions							12.543210
13. household tasks							13.543210
14. leisure activities							14.543210
15. my or her career							15.543210
16. bringing up the children							16.543210

How Often do you:

	All the time	Mostly	Some times	Occas-ionally	Rarely	Never	
16. think about separation or divorce							16.012345
17. you or her leave the house after a fight							17.012345
18. think that things are going well between you							18.543210
19. confide in her							19.543210
20. regret that you married (or lived together)							20.012345
21. quarrel with her							21.012345
22. get on each others' nerves							22.012345

23. How often do you kiss her? (circle one) 23. #

4.every day / 3.most days / 2.sometimes / 1.rarely / 0.never

24. How many of your outside interests do you share with her? (circle one) 24. #

4.all of them / 3.most / 2.some / 1.very few / 0.none

How often do you do the following things with your partner?

0 = Never
1 = Less than once a month
2 = Once or twice a month
3 = Once or twice a week
4 = Once a day
5 = More than once a day

(Write the number 1 to 5 after each of the next four lines)

25. Have a stimulating exchange of ideas?..... 25.#

26. Laugh together?..... 26.#

27. Calmly discuss something?..... 27.#

28. Work together on a project?..... 28.#

During the past few weeks, did you disagree about?

		N.B.
29. Being too tired for sex, or not having it?	yes/no	29. 0,1
30. Not showing love or affection?	yes/no	30. 0,1
31. How happy are you in your relationship? (circle one)		31.
0. Extremely unhappy 1. Fairly unhappy 2. A little unhappy 3. As happy as most other people 4. Very happy 5. Extremely happy 6. It is perfect		0-6
32. How do you feel about your relationship? (circle one)		32.
0. Our relationship can never succeed, and there is no more that I can do to keep it going.		0-5
1. It would be nice if it succeeded, but I refuse to do any more than I am doing now to keep it going.		
2. It would be nice if it succeeded, but I can't do much more than I am doing now to keep it going.		
3. I want very much for our relationship to succeed, and will do my fair share to see that it does.		
4. I want very much for our relationship to succeed, and will do all I can to see that it does.		
5. I want desperately for our relationship to succeed, and would go to almost any length to see that it does.		
32a. Which of these do you think your partner feels?.....		a.#
33. Of all the arguments you have had with your partner, do you think that you started (circle one):		33.
4.all of them/3.most/2.about half/1.less than half/0.none		0-4
34. Of all the arguments you have had with your partner, do you think that she started (circle one):		34.
4.all of them/3.most/2.about half/1.less than half/0.none		0-4
35. Are you worried that other men may be interested in her?	yes/no	35. 1,0
36. Have you ever felt so angry with your partner that you have physically hit or slapped or shoved her?	yes/no	36. a.1,0
If yes, when was the first time?.....		b.mth#
when was the last time?.....		c.mth#
37. Have you ever slapped or shoved a partner in a previous relationship?	yes/no	37. 1,0

38. Please answer these questions if you have ever had any children living with you at home:

38.

Except in an emergency,

a. Have you sometimes left young children under 6 years old at home alone while you were out shopping or at work or doing anything else? yes/no — a. 1,0

b. Have there been times when a neighbor fed a child of yours because you didn't get around to shopping for food or cooking? yes/no — b. 1,0

c. Has a nurse, or social worker or teacher ever said that any child of yours wasn't being given enough to eat, or wasn't being kept clean enough or wasn't getting medical care when it was needed? yes/no — c. 1,0

d. Have you more than once run out of money for food for your family because you had spent the food money on yourself or on going out? yes/no — d. 1,0

e Has a neighbor of yours ever kept your child overnight because nobody was taking care of him at home? yes/no — e. 1,0

XX

F. HOW HAVE YOU BEEN FEELING OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS?

For each question, please indicate which one of the statements is nearest to how you have been feeling over the past few days.

Question 1.

a. I do not feel sad.
b. I feel blue or sad.
c. I am blue or sad all the time and can't snap out of it.
d. I am so sad or unhappy that it is quite painful.
e. I am so sad or unhappy that I can't stand it.

1.
a. 0
b. 1
c. 2
d. 2
e. 3

Question 2.

a. I am not particularly pessimistic or discouraged about the future.
b. I feel discouraged about the future.
c. I feel I have nothing to look forward to.
d. I feel that I won't ever get over my troubles.
e. I feel that the future is hopeless & that things cannot improve.

2.
a. 0
b. 1
c. 2
d. 2
e. 3

Question 3.

a. I do not feel like a failure.
b. I feel I have failed more than the average person.
c. I feel I have accomplished very little that is worthwhile or that means anything.
d. As I look back on my life all I can see is a lot of failures.
e. I feel I am a complete failure as a person.

3.
a. 0
b. 1
c. 2
d. 2
e. 3

Question 4.

a. I am not particularly dissatisfied.
b. I feel bored most of the time.
c. I don't enjoy things the way I used to.
d. I don't get satisfaction out of anything any more.
e. I am dissatisfied with everything.

4.
a. 0
b. 1
c. 1
d. 2
e. 3

Question 5.

a. I don't feel particularly guilty.
b. I feel bad or unworthy a good part of the time.
c. I feel quite guilty.
d. I feel bad or unworthy practically all the time now.
e. I feel as though I am very bad or worthless.

5.
a. 0
b. 1
c. 2
d. 2
e. 3

Question 6.

a. I don't feel I am being punished.
b. I have a feeling that something bad may happen to me.
c. I feel I am being punished or will be punished.
d. I feel I deserve to be punished.
e. I want to be punished.

6.
a. 0
b. 1
c. 2
d. 3
e. 3

Question 7.

a. I don't feel disappointed in myself.
b. I am disappointed in myself.
c. I don't like myself.
d. I am disgusted with myself.
e. I hate myself.

7.
a. 0
b. 1
c. 1
d. 2
e. 3

Question 8.

a. I don't feel I am any worse than anybody else.
b. I am critical of myself for my weaknesses or mistakes.
c. I blame myself for my faults.
d. I blame myself for everything bad that happens.

8.
a. 0
b. 2
c. 2
d. 3

Question 9.

a. I don't have any thoughts of harming myself.
b. I have thoughts of harming myself but I would not carry them out.
c. I feel I would be better off dead.
d. I feel my family would be better off if I were dead.
e. I have definite plans about committing suicide.
f. I would kill myself if I could.

9.
a. 0
b. 1
c. 2
d. 2
e. 3
f. 3

Question 10.

a. I don't cry any more than usual.
b. I cry more now than I used to.
c. I cry all the time now. I can't stop it.
d. I used to be able to cry but now I can't cry at all even though I want to.

10.
a. 0
b. 1
c. 2
d. 3

Question 11.

a. I am no more irritated now than I ever am.
b. I get annoyed or irritated more easily than I used to.
c. I get irritated all the time.
d. I don't get irritated at all at the things that used to irritate me.

11.
a. 0
b. 1
c. 2
d. 3

Question 12.

a. I have not lost interest in other people.
b. I am less interested in other people now than I used to be.
c. I have lost most of my interest in other people and have little feeling for them.
d. I have lost all my interest in other people and don't care about them at all.

12.
a. 0
b. 1
c. 2
d. 3

Question 13.

a. I make decisions about as well as ever.
b. I try to put off making decisions.
c. I have great difficulty in making decisions.
d. I can't make decisions at all any more.

13.
a. 0
b. 1
c. 2
d. 3

Question 14.

a. I don't feel that I look any worse than I used to. — a. 0
b. I am worried that I am looking old or unattractive. — b. 1
c. I feel that there are permanent changes in my appearance and they make me look unattractive. — c. 2
d. I feel that I am ugly or repulsive looking. — d. 3

Question 15.

15.
a. I can work about as well as before. — a. 0
b. It takes extra effort to get started at doing something. — b. 1
c. I don't work as well as I used to. — c. 1
d. I have to push myself very hard to do anything. — d. 2
e. I can't do any work at all. — e. 3

Question 16.

16.
a. I can sleep as well as usual. — a. 0
b. I wake up more tired in the morning than I used to. — b. 1
c. I wake up 1 to 2 hours earlier than usual and find it hard to get back to sleep. — c. 2
d. I wake up early every day and can't get more than 5 hours sleep. — d. 3

Question 17.

17.
a. I don't get any more tired than usual. — a. 0
b. I get tired more easily than I used to. — b. 1
c. I get tired from doing anything. — c. 2
d. I get too tired to do anything. — d. 3

Question 18.

18.
a. My appetite is no worse than usual. — a. 0
b. My appetite is not as good as it used to be. — b. 1
c. My appetite is much worse now. — c. 2
d. I have no appetite at all any more. — d. 3

Question 19.

19.
a. I haven't lost much weight, if any, lately. — a. 0
b. I have lost more than 5 pounds. — b. 1
c. I have lost more than 10 pounds. — c. 2
d. I have lost more than 15 pounds. — d. 3

Question 20.

20.
a. I am no more concerned about my health than usual. — a. 0
b. I am concerned about aches and pains or upset stomach or constipation. — b. 1
c. I am so concerned about how I feel or what I feel that it's hard to think of much else. — c. 2
d. I am completely absorbed in what I feel. — d. 3

Question 21.

21.
a. I have not noticed any recent change in my interest in sex. — a. 0
b. I am less interested in sex than I used to be. — b. 1
c. I am much less interested in sex now. — c. 2
d. I have lost interest in sex completely. — d. 3

G YOUR TEMPER

1.	At what age (including childhood) did you first notice that you would lose your temper?.....	1.#
2.	How often do you lose your temper? (circle one) 5. More than once a day 4. once a day 3. once a week 2. once a month 1. once a year 0. less than once a year.	2a.0-5
	When was the last time?.....	b.mths
3.	Have you ever lost your temper enough to hit someone since you were 18 years old? yes/no	3a. 1,0
	When was the last time you hit someone?.....	b.mth#
	Was this your wife or partner? yes/no	c.1,0
3a.	How many fights outside your home do you have in a year?....	d.#
4.	How many times have you hit your wife or partner so hard that she had to be treated in hospital?.....	4a.#
	How many times have you hit anyone else so hard that they had to be treated in hospital?.....	b.#
5.	Have you ever been in a fight using weapons, since you were 18 years old? yes/no	5. a.1,0
	If yes, was this with your wife or partner? yes/no	b.1,0
6.	Do you ever hit the wall, or throw objects, rather than hitting another person? yes/no	6a.1,0
	If yes, have you ever broken any bones doing this? yes/no	b.1,0
7.	Have you ever found yourself unable to stop from hitting someone? yes/no	7.1,0
8.	Just before you lose control, do you get any funny feelings or sensations, or do things look any different? yes/no	8.1,0
	If yes, please describe them.....	
9.	Are there some occasions when you don't remember what you did when you got out of control? yes/no	9.1,0
10.	After you have lost your temper, do you ever feel drowsy or sleepy, or have a headache, or any other feelings? yes/no	10.1,0
	If yes, what?.....	
11.	When you are angry, do you ever take it out on	11.
	the children? yes/no	1,0
	the animals (dog, cat, horse)? yes/no	1,0

xx

H. HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT OTHERS.

Circle 'yes' if the statement is true.

1. Unless someone asks me in a nice way, I won't do what they want.	yes/no	1. 1,0
2. I don't seem to get what's coming to me.	yes/no	2. 1,0
3. I sometimes spread gossip about people I don't like.	yes/no	3. 1,0
4. Once in a while I can't control my urge to harm others.	yes/no	4. 1,0
5. I know that people tend to talk about me behind my back.	yes/no	5. 1,0
6. It is OK to hit my wife if she hits me first.	yes/no	6. 1,0
7. I lose my temper easily but get over it quickly.	yes/no	7. 1,0
8. When I disapprove of my friends' behavior, I let them know it.	yes/no	8. 1,0
9. When someone makes a rule I don't like, I am tempted to break it.	yes/no	9. 1,0
10. Other people always seem to get the breaks.	yes/no	10. 1,0
11. I never get mad enough to throw things.	yes/no	11. 1,0
12. My wife could hit me to make me listen to her.	yes/no	12. 1,0
13. I can think of no good reason for ever hitting anyone.	yes/no	13. 1,0
14. I tend to be on my guard with people who are friendlier than I expected.	yes/no	14. 1,0
15. I am always patient with others.	yes/no	15. 1,0
16. I often find myself disagreeing with people.	yes/no	16. 1,0
17. When someone is bossy, I do the opposite of what he asks.	yes/no	17. 1,0
18. When I look back on what's happened to me, I can't help feeling mildly resentful.	yes/no	18. 1,0
19. A wife who is unfaithful deserves to be hit.	yes/no	19. 1,0
20. When I am mad, I sometimes slam doors.	yes/no	20. 1,0
21. If somebody hits me first, I let him have it.	yes/no	21. 1,0
22. There are a number of people who seem to dislike me very much.	yes/no	22. 1,0

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23. I am irritated a great deal more than people are aware of.	yes/no	23. 1,0
24. I can't help getting into arguments with people when they disagree with me.	yes/no	24. 1,0
25. When people are bossy, I take my time just to show them.	yes/no	25. 1,0
26. Almost every week I see someone I dislike.	yes/no	26. 1,0
27. I never play practical jokes.	yes/no	27. 1,0
28. Whoever insults me or my family is asking for a fight.	yes/no	28. 1,0
29. It is OK for my wife to hit me if I upset her enough.	yes/no	29. 1,0
30. There are a number of people who seem to be jealous of me.	yes/no	30. 1,0
31. It makes my blood boil to have somebody make fun of me.	yes/no	31. 1,0
32. I demand that people respect my rights.	yes/no	32. 1,0
33. I might slap my wife to make her listen.	yes/no	33. 1,0
34. Occasionally when I am mad at someone I will give him the "silent treatment".	yes/no	34. 1,0
35. Although I don't show it, I am sometimes eaten up with jealousy.	yes/no	35. 1,0
36. When I am angry, I sometimes sulk.	yes/no	36. 1,0
37. People who continually pester me are asking for a punch on the nose.	yes/no	37. 1,0
38. I sometimes feel that others are laughing at me.	yes/no	38. 1,0
39. If someone doesn't treat me right, I don't let it annoy me.	yes/no	39. 1,0
40. Even when my anger is aroused, I don't use "strong language".	yes/no	40. 1,0
41. It would be OK for my wife to hit me if I hit her first.	yes/no	41. 1,0
42. I don't know any people that I downright hate.	yes/no	42. 1,0
43. I sometimes pout when I don't get my own way.	yes/no	43, 1,0
44. I seldom strike back, even if someone hits me first.	yes/no	44. 1,0

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45. My motto is "Never trust strangers".	yes/no	45. 1,0
46. Sometimes people bother me by just being around.	yes/no	46. 1,0
47. If somebody annoys me, I will tell him what I think of him.	yes/no	47. 1,0
48. If I let people see the way I feel, I'd be considered a hard person to get along with.	yes/no	48. 1,0
49. Since the age of ten, I've never had a temper tantrum.	yes/no	49. 1,0
50. When I really lose my temper, I am capable of slapping someone.	yes/no	50. 1,0
51. I could slap my wife to stop her being hysterical.	yes/no	51. 1,0
52. I often wonder what hidden reason another person may have for doing something nice for me.	yes/no	52. 1,0
53. I often feel like a powder keg ready to explode.	yes/no	53. 1,0
54. When people yell at me, I yell back.	yes/no	54. 1,0
55. At times I feel I get a raw deal out of life.	yes/no	55. 1,0
56. I can remember being so angry that I picked up the nearest thing and broke it.	yes/no	56. 1,0
57. I get into fights about as often as the next person.	yes/no	57. 1,0
58. If my wife should catch me with another woman, I deserve everything I get.	yes/no	58. 1,0
59. I used to think that most people told the truth, but now I know otherwise.	yes/no	59. 1,0
60. I sometimes carry a chip on my shoulder.	yes/no	60. 1,0
61. When I get mad, I say nasty things.	yes/no	61. 1,0
62. I sometimes show my anger by banging on the table.	yes/no	62. 1,0
63. If I have to resort to physical violence to defend my rights, I will.	yes/no	63. 1,0
64. I have no enemies who really wish to harm me.	yes/no	64. 1,0
65. I can't help being a little rude to people I don't like.	yes/no	65. 1,0
66. I might slap my wife if she's made me really angry.	yes/no	66. 1,0

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67. I could not put someone in his place, even if he needed it.	yes/no	67. 1,0
68. I have known people who pushed me so far that we came to blows.	yes/no	68. 1,0
69. I seldom feel that people are trying to anger or insult me.	yes/no	69. 1,0
70. I don't let a lot of unimportant things irritate me.	yes/no	70. 1,0
71. I often make threats I don't really mean to carry out.	yes/no	71. 1,0
72. Lately, I have been kind of grouchy.	yes/no	72. 1,0
73. When arguing, I tend to raise my voice.	yes/no	73. 1,0
74. It would be OK for my wife to get physical with me if she thought I was disciplining the children too harshly.	yes/no	74. 1,0
75. I usually cover up my poor opinion of others.	yes/no	75. 1,0
76. I would rather agree with a point than get into an argument about it.	yes/no	76. 1,0
77. When I get angry, I sometimes take it out on the dog (or cat, horse, etc.)	yes/no	77. 1,0
78. When I get angry, I sometimes take it out on the children.	yes/no	78. 1,0
		XX

I. OTHER THINGS ABOUT YOURSELF

To each question, please answer:

3 for OFTEN
2 for SOMETIMES
1 for RARELY
0 for NEVER

1.	I have acted on a whim or impulse.....	1
2.	I have had sudden changes in my moods.....	2
3.	I have had the experience of feeling confused, (even) in a familiar place.....	3
4.	I do not feel totally responsible for what I do.....	4
5.	I have lost control of myself even though I did not want to.....	5
6.	I have been surprised by my actions.....	6
7.	I have lost control of myself and hurt other people.....	7
8.	My speech has been slurred.....	8
9.	I have had "blackouts".....	9
10.	I have become wild & uncontrollable after 1 or 2 drinks.....	10
11.	I have become so angry that I have smashed things.....	11
12.	I have frightened other people with my temper.....	12
13.	I have "come to" without knowing where I was or how I got there.....	13
14.	I have had indescribable frightening feelings.....	14
15.	I have been so tense I would like to scream.....	15
16.	I have had the impulse to kill myself.....	16
17.	I have been angry enough to kill somebody.....	17
18.	I have physically attacked and hurt another person.....	18
19.	I misunderstand what other people tell me.....	19
20.	I lose concentration for what I'm doing.....	20
21.	I have trouble remembering telephone numbers.....	21
22.	I upset people by saying the wrong thing.....	22
23.	I mix up my right and left sides.....	23
24.	I have difficulty in following a map.....	24
25.	I find myself telling lies, for no good reason.....	25
26.	I tend to fall in with a bad crowd.....	26
27.	I am clumsy, or drop things a lot.....	27
28.	I get anxious or depressed.....	28
29.	I get enthusiastic about a project, then soon drop it.....	29
30.	I have difficulty with spelling.....	30
31.	I have difficulty in reading other peoples'facial expressions.....	31
32.	Sudden noises make me jump.....	32
33.	Things go wrong with my head.....	33
34.	I find myself searching for the right word.....	34
35.	I find myself doing something, but not remember why I'm doing it.....	35
36.	I find lights too bright for me.....	36
37.	I get the feeling that people are watching me.....	37
38.	I get feelings of deja-vu..... (answer 0 if you don't know what this means)	38
39.	I have a poor sense of direction.....	39
40.	I am bad at jigsaw puzzles.....	40
41.	I have difficulty in tyeing my shoelaces, or my tie.....	41
42.	I have difficulty riding a bicycle.....	42
43	running.....	43
44.	jumping over small objects.....	44
45.	hitting a ball with a bat.....	45

^^

J. HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT YOURSELF

For each statement, please put an X in the appropriate column:

In column A if the statement is completely true
B mostly true
C partly true & partly false
D mostly false
E completely false

	completely true				completely false	
	A	B	C	D	E	
1. I have a healthy body.						1. 54321
2. I am an attractive person.						2. 54321
3. I consider myself a sloppy person.						3. 54321
4. I am a decent sort of person.						4. 54321
5. I am an honest person.						5. 54321
6. I am a bad person.						6. 54321
7. I am a cheerful person.						7. 54321
8. I am a calm & easy-going person.						8. 54321
9. I am a nobody.						9. 54321
10. I have a family that would always help me in any kind of trouble.						10. 54321
11. I am a member of a happy family.						11. 54321
12. My friends have no confidance in me.						12. 54321
13. I am a friendly person.						13. 54321
14. I am popular with men.						14. 54321
15. I am not interested in what other people do.						15. 54321
16. I do not always tell the truth.						16. 54321
17. I get angry sometimes.						17. 54321
18. I like to look nice & neat all the time.						18. 54321

>

	completely true A	B	C	D	completely false E	
19. I am full of aches & pains.						19. 54321
20. I am a sick person.						20. 54321
21. I am a religious person.						21. 54321
22. I am a moral failure.						22. 54321
23. I am a morally weak person.						23. 54321
24. I have a lot of self-control.						24. 54321
25. I am a hateful person.						25. 54321
26. I am losing my mind.						26. 54321
27. I am an important person to my friends & family.						27. 54321
28. I am not loved by my family.						28. 54321
29. I feel that my family doesn't trust me.						29. 54321
30. I am popular with women.						30. 54321
31. I am mad at the whole world.						31. 54321
32. I am hard to be friendly with.						32. 54321
33. Once in a while I think of things too bad to talk about.						33. 54321
34. Sometimes, when I'm not feeling well, I am cross.						34. 54321
35. I am neither too fat nor too thin.						35. 54321
36. I like my looks just the way they are.						36. 54321
37. I would like to change some parts of my body.						37. 54321
38. I am satisfied with my moral behavior.						38. 54321
39. I am satisfied with my relationship to God.						39. 54321
40. I ought to go to church more.						40. 54321
41. I am satisfied to be just what I am.						41. 54321

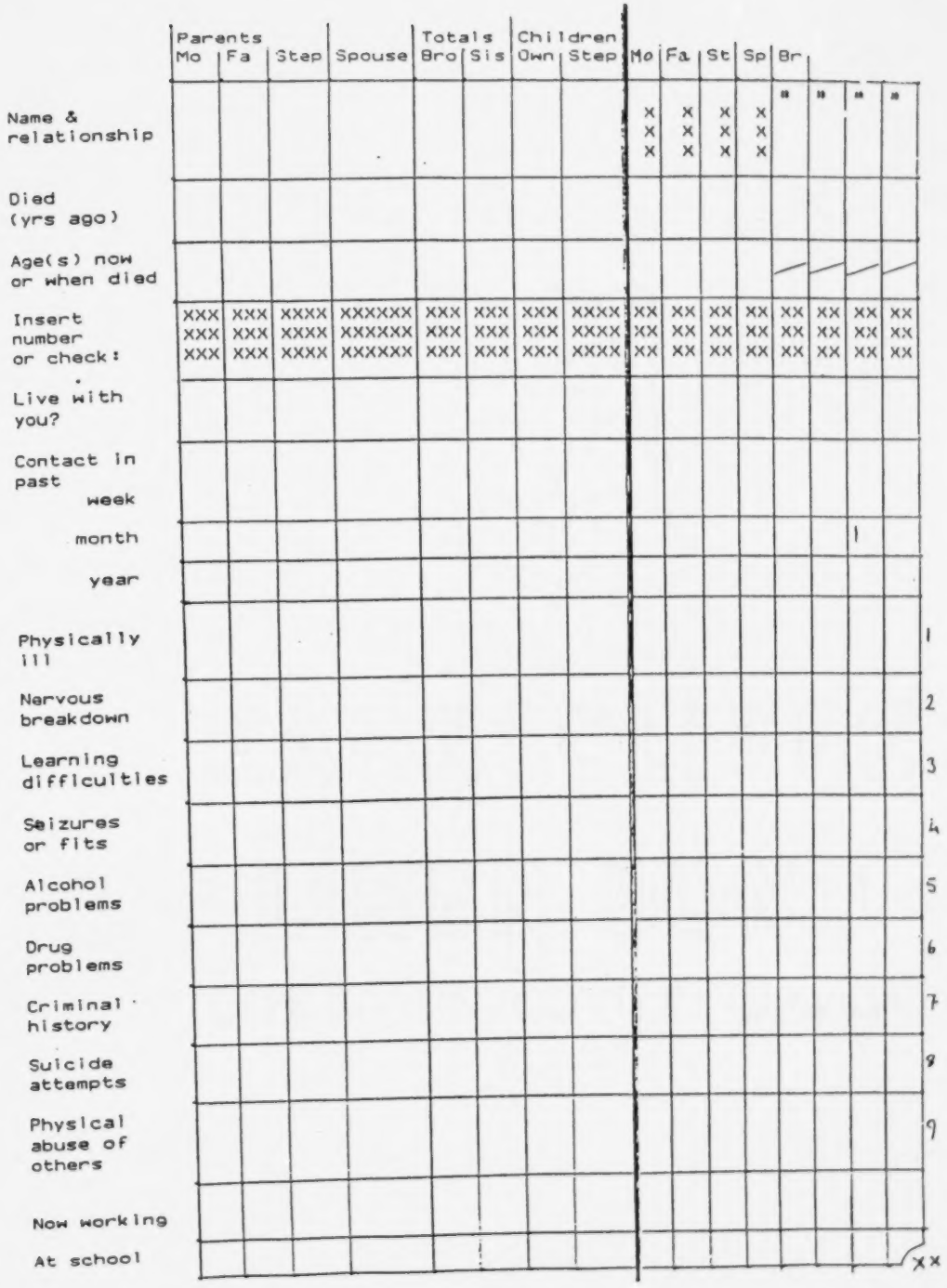
	completely true				completely false	
	A	B	C	D	E	
42. I am just as nice as I should be.						42. 54321
43. I despise myself.						43. 54321
44. I am satisfied with my family relationships.						44. 54321
45. I understand my family as well as I should.						45. 54321
46. I should trust my family more.						46. 54321
47. I am as sociable as I want to be.						47. 54321
48. I try to please others, but I don't overdo it.						48. 54321
49. I am no good at all from a social standpoint.						49. 54321
50. I do not like everyone I know.						50. 54321
51. Once in a while, I laugh at a dirty joke.						51. 54321
52. I am neither too tall nor too short.						52. 54321
53. I don't feel as well as I should.						53. 54321
54. I should have more sex appeal.						54. 54321
55. I am as religious as I want to be.						55. 54321
56. I wish I could be more trustworthy.						56. 54321
57. I shouldn't tell so many lies.						57. 54321
58. I am as smart as I want to be.						58. 54321
59. I am not the person I would like to be.						59. 54321
60. I wish I didn't give up as easily as I do.						60. 54321
61. I treat my parents as well as I should (or used to).						61. 54321
62. I am too sensitive to the things that my family say.						62. 54321
63. I should love my family more.						63. 54321

>

	completely true A	B	C	D	completely false E	
64. I am satisfied with the way I treat other people.						64. 54321
65. I should be more polite to others.						65. 54321
66. I ought to get along better with other people.						66. 54321
67. I gossip a little at times.						67. 54321
68. At times I feel like swearing.						68. 54321
69. I take good care of myself physically.						69. 54321
70. I try to be careful about my appearance.						70. 54321
71. I often act like I am "all thumbs".						71. 54321
72. I am true to my religion in everyday life.						72. 54321
73. I try to change when I know I'm doing things that are wrong.						73. 54321
74. I sometimes do very bad things.						74. 54321
75. I can always take care of myself in any situation.						75. 54321
76. I take the blame for things without getting mad.						76. 54321
77. I do things without thinking about them first.						77. 54321
78. I try to play fair with my friends & family.						78. 54321
79. I take a real interest in my family.						79. 54321
80. I give in to my parents (or used to).						80. 54321
81. I try to understand the other fellow's point of view.						81. 54321
82. I get along well with other people.						82. 54321
83. I do not forgive others easily.						83. 54321

>

	completely true A	B	C	D	completely false E	
84. I would rather win than lose in a game.						84. 54321
85. I feel good most of the time.						85. 54321
86. I do poorly in sports & games.						86. 54321
87. I am a poor sleeper.						87. 54321
88. I do what is right most of the time.						88. 54321
89. I sometimes use unfair means to get ahead.						89. 54321
90. I have trouble doing the things that are right.						90. 54321
91. I solve my problems quite easily.						91. 54321
92. I change my mind a lot.						92. 54321
93. I try to run away from my problems.						93. 54321
94. I do my share of work at home.						94. 54321
95. I quarrel with my family.						95. 54321
96. I do not act like my family think I should.						96. 54321
97. I see good points in all the people I meet.						97. 54321
98. I do not feel at ease with other people.						98. 54321
99. I find it hard to talk with strangers.						99. 54321
100. Once in a while I put off until tomorrow what I can do today.						100.54321
						XX


Parents
Mo
Fa
Step
Spouse
Totals
Bro
Sis
Children
Own
Step
Mo
Fa
St
Sp
Br
Name & relationship
Died (yrs ago)
Age(s) now or when died
Insert number or check:
Live with you?
Contact in past
week
month
year
Physically ill
Nervous breakdown
Learning difficulties
Seizures or fits
Alcohol problems
Drug problems
Criminal history
Suicide attempts
Physical abuse of others
Now working
At school

APPENDIX D

Statement of Informed Consent

Alberta Hospital Edmonton
Forensic Services

Forensic Assessment and Community Services

STATEMENT OF INFORMED CONSENT (TREATMENT)

Date: _____

Client Code No. _____

Introduction. I have been referred to Forensic Assessment and Community Services for possible participation in a treatment demonstration project. The purpose of the treatment is to teach my partner and I (and our child[ren]) how to eliminate violence of any kind in our family. If I decide to participate I can expect to be involved in two major activities. First, I will be interviewed by project staff and I will complete some additional questionnaires. Some of these will be of the paper-and-pencil variety and some will be administered by a computer. Second, my partner and I (and possibly our child[ren]) will participate in three different kinds of group meetings over the next 26 weeks. The first of these is called "Anger Management", the second is "Breaking the Cycle of Family Violence", and the third is "Communication Skills." The project staff and Correctional Service Canada believe that these assessments and treatments will be effective in helping us to get our problem(s) under control.

Alternative procedures. The treatments described above are not the only ones that could be used with us. I understand that there are other kinds of evaluations and treatments, any or all of which might be just as effective as these.

Voluntary participation. I understand that my participation in this demonstration project is purely voluntary, even though I may have been referred by Correctional Service Canada, my parole officer, or any other legal authority. I may refuse to participate or I may discontinue my participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which I am otherwise entitled.

Confidentiality of information. All information obtained from me through participation in this demonstration project will be coded with a 5-digit number. My name or other identifying information will not be included in the project records. The treatment team will not share or otherwise release information that is not coded, and then only to Correctional Service Canada. The only other time that information will be released is if I provide written consent or if the project staff believe I am in danger of harming myself or someone else.

Other uses of information. I also give consent to the treatment staff to use information gained from me for presentation at professional meetings and in professional publications provided that my identity is completely protected. This includes use of this information for future research purposes that may go beyond the scope of this project.

Benefits. There may be direct benefits to me, my partner, and our child[ren] as a result of participating in this treatment demonstration project. I can anticipate coming to a better understanding of family violence, learning new ways to deal with anger and improving communication with my partner. However, I also understand that the purpose of the project is to better understand a number of ways to treat family violence. The least that I can expect is that my contribution to the project might be useful to other persons in the future who have problems like mine.

Risks. There may be some risks to me if I participate in this treatment project.

1. I might not like to hear some of the things that my wife/partner says about me in our treatment groups. I may become angry and upset with her/him as a result. I understand, however, that this is the very problem that the project is designed to treat.

2. In addition, I may feel anxious, ashamed, depressed, or guilty as a result of participating in this treatment. Because these things may happen to me I am also aware that I may, at any time, seek help from the professional staff for any discomfort that I may be having.

3. The treatment staff have cautioned me that, if I discuss any past criminal behavior with them, that I should limit it to crimes for which I have been arrested, charged, prosecuted, or convicted only. If I tell them about crimes I have committed which nobody knows about, they may have to report this.

4. There are no medical risks in these treatments.

5. There is a social risk that other acquaintances of mine, my friends, or my family might discover that I participated in a treatment for family violence. Because of the nature of the problem, this might prove embarrassing to me.

6. There is a legal risk that the treatment results might be requested by a court of law. This is unlikely because all of the data are coded and the personal identity information has been removed. Nevertheless, if a court discovered that I participated in this type of treatment, the results could be subpoenaed from the treatment staff who could be required to testify in court about their probable meaning.

7. Knowledge of reported or suspected child abuse which comes to the attention of project staff will have to be reported either by myself or by the project staff to Child Welfare. This is a binding, legal obligation.

8. There is a risk that at some point during or at the end of treatment my partner and I may decide that we no longer wish to stay together.

I believe that I have been fully informed about this treatment demonstration project in language that is understandable to me. I have expressed any questions that I have about the nature of the project and its possible influence on me and these questions have been answered to my satisfaction by the project staff.

Date: _____, 199___

_____
Signature of Participant

_____
for: FACS/Family Violence Project

I have witnessed the reading and explanation of the above statement to the participant. I verify that he/she was given ample opportunity to ask any questions about the treatment and that these questions seemed to have been answered to his/her satisfaction. I witness his/her signature indicating that he/she fully understands and accepts the terms of this agreement.

_____
Signature of Witness

APPENDIX E

Chi Square Analysis of Table 3

Exposure to Violence: Parent-Child Abuse

Chi Square Analysis of Table 3 - Exposure to Violence: Parent-Child Physical Abuse

Variable	**X** (Spousally Abusive Males)	**Y** (Spousally Non-Abusive Males)
Group 1 (Exposed to parent-child physical abuse)		
observed n	50	10
expected n	49.600	10.400
cell chi square	0.003	0.015
Group 2 (Not exposed to parent-child physical abuse)		
observed n	12	3
expected n	12.400	2.600
cell chi square	0.013	0.062

Chi square value (p .05)	0.093 (this is the sum of the cell chi squares)
Degrees of freedom	1
Critical value	3.840 (the above chi square must be greater)

THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO VARIABLES

Source of formulas: Glass and Hopkins (1984, p. 283)

Design and programming by Roy G. Jaffray, February 14, 1995

APPENDIX F

Chi Square Analysis of Table 4

Exposure to Violence: Parent-Parent Physical Abuse

Chi Square Analysis of Table 4 - Exposure to Violence: Parent-Parent Physical Abuse

Variable	**X** (Spousally Abusive Males)	**Y** (Spousally Non-Abusive Males)
Group 1 (Exposed to parent-parent physical abuse)		
observed n	41	8
expected n	40.478	8.522
cell chi square	0.007	0.032
Group 2 (Not exposed to parent-parent physical abuse)		
observed n	16	4
expected n	16.522	3.478
cell chi square	0.016	0.078

Chi square value (p .05)	0.133 (this is the sum of the cell chi squares)
Degrees of freedom	1
Critical value	3.840 (the above chi square must be greater)

THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO VARIABLES

Source of formulas: Glass and Hopkins (1984, p. 283)

Design and programming by Roy G. Jaffray, February 14, 1995

APPENDIX G

Chi Square Analysis of Table 5

Witnessing Interparental Physical Abuse

Chi Square Analysis of Table 5 - Witnessing Interparental Physical Abuse

Variable	**X**	**Y**
	(Spousally Abusive Males)	(Spousally Non-Abusive Males)
Group 1 (Actually saw interparental physical abuse)		
observed n	35	6
expected n	34.306	6.694
cell chi square	0.014	0.072
Group 2 (Exposed to interparental physical abuse but did not actually see it)		
observed n	6	2
expected n	6.694	1.306
cell chi square	0.072	0.369

Chi square value (p .05)	0.527 (this is the sum of the cell chi squares)
Degrees of freedom	1
Critical value	3.840 (the above chi square must be greater)

THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO VARIABLES

Source of formulas: Glass and Hopkins (1984, p. 283)

Design and programming by Roy G. Jaffray, February 14, 1995

APPENDIX H

Chi Square Analysis of Table 6

A Double Dose of Violence

Chi Square Analysis of Table 6 - A Double Dose of Violence

Variable	**X**	**Y**
	(Spousally Abusive Males)	(Spousally Non-Abusive Males)
Group 1 (Exposed to both parent-child and parent-parent physical abuse)		
observed n	36	8
expected n	36.348	7.652
cell chi square	0.003	0.016
Group 2 (Not exposed to both parent-child and parent-parent physical abuse)		
observed n	21	4
expected n	20.652	4.348
cell chi square	0.006	0.028

Chi square value (p .05) 0.053 (this is the sum of the cell chi squares)

Degrees of freedom 1

Critical value 3.840 (the above chi square must be greater)

THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO VARIABLES

Source of formulas: Glass and Hopkins (1984, p. 283)

Design and programming by Roy G. Jaffray, February 14, 1995

APPENDIX I

Chi Square Analysis of Table 7

Violence Outside of the Home

Chi Square Analysis of Table 7 - Violence Outside of the Home

Variable	**X**	**Y**
	(Spousally Abusive Males)	(Spousally Non-Abusive Males)
Group 1 (Violent outside of the home)		
observed n	59	10
expected n	58.458	10.542
cell chi square	0.005	0.028
Group 2 (Not violent outside of the home)		
observed n	2	1
expected n	2.542	0.458
cell chi square	0.115	0.640

Chi square value (p .05)	0.788 (this is the sum of the cell chi squares)
Degrees of freedom	1
Critical value	3.840 (the above chi square must be greater)

THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO VARIABLES

Source of formulas: Glass and Hopkins (1984, p. 283)

Design and programming by Roy G. Jaffray, February 14, 1995

APPENDIX J

Chi Square Analysis of Table 8

Siblings' Physical Abuse of Others

Chi Square Analysis of Table 8 - Siblings' Physical Abuse of Others

Variable	**X** (Spousally Abusive Males)	**Y** (Spousally Non-Abusive Males)
Group 1 (Siblings are physically abusive of others)		
observed n	11	4
expected n	12.750	2.250
cell chi square	0.240	1.361
Group 2 (Siblings are not physically abusive of others)		
observed n	40	5
expected n	38.250	6.750
cell chi square	0.080	0.454

Chi square value (p .05) 2.135 (this is the sum of the cell chi squares)

Degrees of freedom 1

Critical value 3.840 (the above chi square must be greater)

THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO VARIABLES

Source of formulas: Glass and Hopkins (1984, p. 283)

Design and programming by Roy G. Jaffray, February 14, 1995